FOE BACKS

スメルズライクグリーンスピリット

SIDE B

井三郎

Smells Like Green Spirit

スメルズライクグリーンスピリット

SMELLS LIKE GREEN SPIRIT

永井三郎

SIDE B

Decadence
A collection of Transcendence

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Smells Like Green Spirit
Saburo Nagai

Chapter 9
Collapse

OH,
WHAT A COINCI-DENCE.

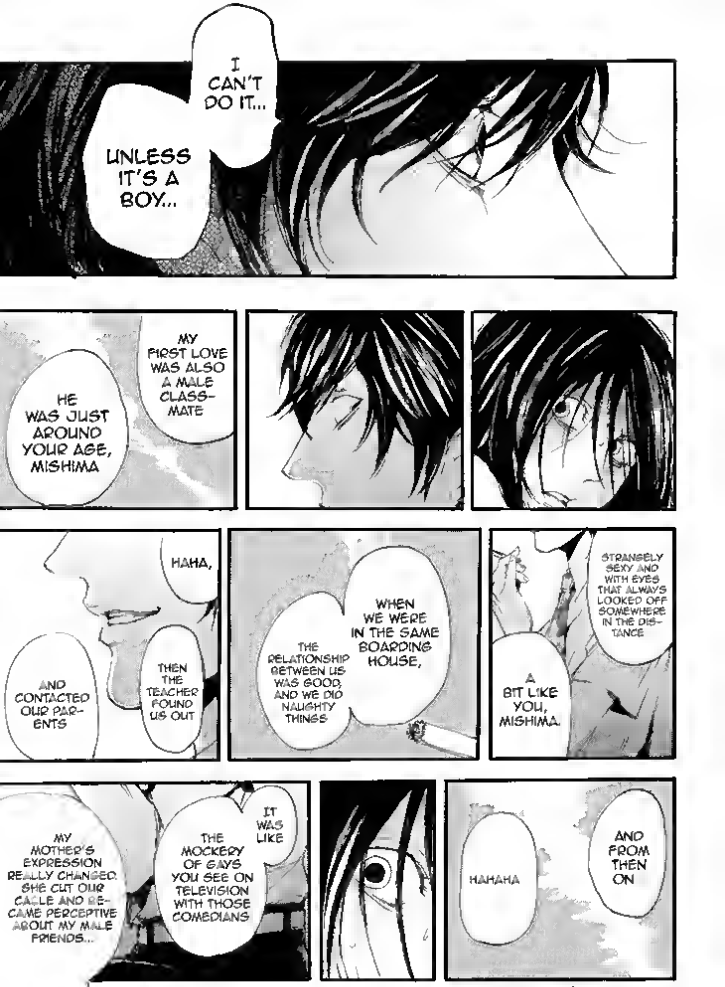
HOW ABOUT I ESCORT YOU HOME?
Decadence
A subsection of Transcendence
CLATTER
EEEK!
DASH

HEYYY! EDOGA-WAAA!!!
HMM?
KIRINO AND I HAVE MENSTRUAL PAINS!
WE'RE LEAVING EARLY!!!
Y...YOU IDIOTS!!!
Whoosh
WHEN THE HELL DID YA BECOME GIRLS?!

Whoosh
MISHIMA
.....
.....
Whoosh
SHUN!
SHUN!

DO YOU MIND IF I SMOKE?

.....
YOU KNOW, I...


I CAN'T DO IT...
UNLESS IT'S A BOY...
MY FIRST LOVE WAS ALSO A MALE CLASS-MATE
HE WAS JUST AROUND YOUR AGE, MISHIMA
HAHA,
AND CONTACTED OUR PAR-ENTS
THEN THE TEACHER FOUND US OUT
THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN US WAS GOOD, AND WE DID NAUGHTY THINGS
WHEN WE WERE IN THE SAME BOARDING HOUSE,
STRANGELY SEXY AND WITH EYES THAT ALWAYS LOOKED OFF SOMEWHERE IN THE DIS-TANCE
A BIT LIKE YOU, MISHIMA.
MY MOTHER'S EXPRESSION REALLY CHANGED. SHE CUT OUR CABLE AND BE-CAME PERCEPTIVE ABOUT MY MALE FRIENDS...
THE MOCKERY OF GAYS YOU SEE ON TELEVISION WITH THOSE COMEDIANS
IT WAS LIKE
HAHAHA
AND FROM THEN ON
HAHAHA...

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AHAHAHAHAHAHA!!!
SO IN ORDER TO PLEASE MY MOTHER, I FORCED MYSELF TO GO OUT WITH GIRLS. I FORCED MYSELF TO HAVE SEX WITH THEM. ANYWAY, IT'S A CRIME TO GET INVOLVED WITH BOYS. SO I HAVEN'T HAD SATISFACTORY SEX ONCE. I KEPT THINKING ABOUT HOW GROSS AND OBSTRUCTIVE THOSE SQUISHY CHESTS WERE. I MARRIED A WOMAN WITH GOOD CREDENTIALS, BUT THEY REALLY ARE INTUITIVE, HUH. SHE FUCKING FOUND MY SECRET DVD COLLECTION OF LE PORN. EVEN THOUGH I'D HIDDEN IT IN A PLACE WHERE NO ONE WOULD EVER FIND IT. IN THE END, WE DIVORCED, AND YOU KNOW WHAT MY MOTHER SAID? "IT WAS BECAUSE OF YOUR ILLNESS, WASN'T IT?! YOU STILL HAVEN'T BEEN CURED OF IT?!"

I LOCKED IT, SO IT'S NO USE.
CLICK
CLICK
I... I'M GONNA PEE MY PANTS...!
I-IT'S COMING OUT, SO...
HMM? GO AHEAD AND DO IT HERE
I'LL DRINK IT FOR YOU.
IT SUBSIDED

.....
.....
THIS BIKE...
IT'S... MISHIMA'S...
TH-THIS IS BAD... SERIOUSLY...
WH-WHAT DO WE DO...?
.....
ANYWAY, LET'S GO THIS WAY FOR NOW, KIRINO!
Suddenly
THIS ROAD'S NARROW, SO I DON'T THINK HE'D HAVE GONE BACK!
Y-YEAH

IT'S NOT LIKE...
I'D THOUGHT THAT A SHITTY SCHOOL IN THE BOONIES LIKE THIS WOULD BE FULL OF PISS ASS MIDDLE SCHOOL MONKEYS
I WAS EXPECTING ANYTHING
NOT REALLY
BUT THEN...
SO IT'S NOT YOUR FAULT, MISHIMA.

MISHI-
MAAA...

OPEN YOUR MOUTH.
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A subsection of Transcendence
SHAKE
NO!

I DON'T WANT THIS...!
MR. YANAGIDA,
NO!
MR—
MR. YANAGIDA!
MR. YANAGIDA.

Haa
Haa
Haa
Haa
HUH...?
YAMASHITA CEMENT...
KIRINO, THIS WAY!!!
WHOOSH
HUH? HOW DO YOU...
OUR SENIOR FROM SOCCER CLUB SAID THAT THAT PLACE IS PRETTY DESERTED, SO HE ALWAYS GOES THERE WITH HIS GIRL WHEN THEY FEEL EACH OTHER UP.
.....
SHUT UP! IT'S ALL OR NOTHING!!!
I didn't say anything.

Haa
Haa
Haa
Haa
OWW...
IT'S NOT... GOING IN.
IT'S NOT GOING IN,
MISHIMA!
IT'S NOT GOING IN.

I CAN'T STICK IT INNNNN...
W-WELL...
IT'S NOT WET AT ALL, SO...
LET ME IN!!!
PLEASE LET ME IN!!!
MISHI-MAAAAA!
I'M BEGGING YOU...
PLEASE...
ACCEPT ME.

Arrghhhhh!
Ahhhhhhhh!
Wham

YANAGIDA, YOU DAMN PIECE OF SHIT!!!
?!
?!
Bam
DAMN, THAT HURT!
Scratch
YUME...?! YOU...

POW
YOU BASTARD...!
MISHIMA..

KICK
Guh
OWW!!!
WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU DOING, YOU RAPIST?!
PSST
SHUT UP

DIE!!!
SHUT THE FUCK UP, YOU CAREFREE BRAT!!!
YOU SHOULD ALL JUST DIE!!!
ALL OF YOU...
IT'S ALL...
ALL YOUR FAULT!

VROOM

WHA...
WHAT'S UP WITH HIM...?

IT'S FINE, DON'T!!!
W-WE GOTTA CONTACT THE SCHOOL...

MR. YANAGIDA...

PLEASE...

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LEAVING WITH THOSE CLICHED WORDS.

HE HAD COMPLETELY DISAPPEARED FROM THAT MOMENT ON...

NEVER SHOWED UP AT OUR SCHOOL AGAIN.

SMELLS LIKE GREEN SPIRIT

BY NAGAI SABUROU

CREDITS

TRANSLATOR: CHITSAI-HIME

PROOFREADER: ARIADNE

CLEANER: NESSY

TYPESETTER: KOKOROMI

QC: 'ROZE'

SCANPROVIDER: 'ROZE'

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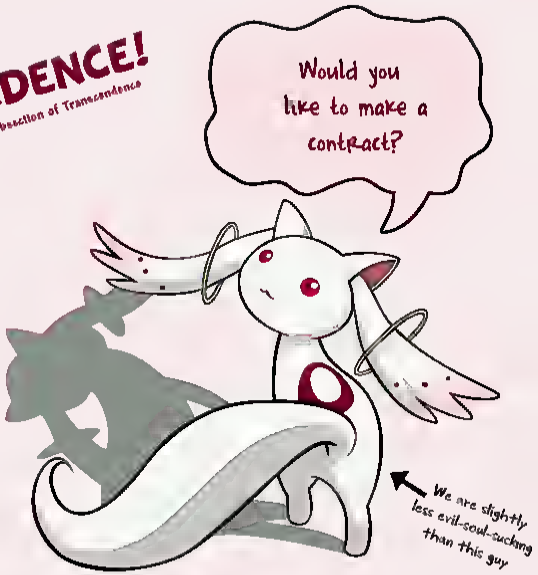

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Chapter 10
The Domain of Children

JUST ONE.

THAT'S ALL.

HE GAVE A SINGLE WORD OF APOLOGY.

THE SCHOOL RECEIVED A CALL FROM MR YANAGIDA

A WHILE LATER.

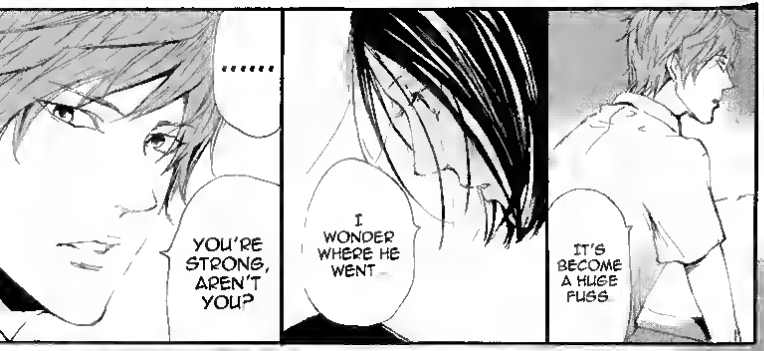
A LOT OF GIRLS CRIED

THE ENGLISH TEACHER, MISS SAWADA, FAINTED ON THE SPOT.

IN THEIR CONFINED WORLD, THE MATTER QUICKLY BECAME A HUGE TOPIC.

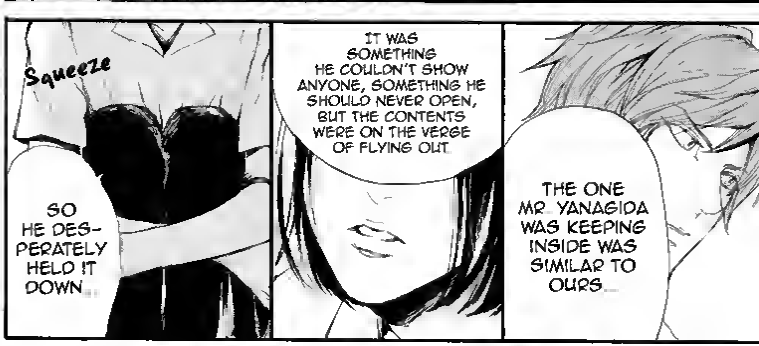
FROM THERE, PEOPLE ADDED THEIR OWN CONJECTURE.

EMBELLISHING IT WITH SOME INTERESTING OR ODD TWIST.


.....
YOU'RE STRONG, AREN'T YOU?
I WONDER WHERE HE WENT...
IT'S BECOME A HUGE FUSS.

"PANDORA'S BOX,"
THE THING YOU MENTIONED BEFORE.
HUH?
.....
PANDORA'S BOX...

EACH OF US HAS ONE.
ITS SIZE IS DIFFERENT, DEPENDING ON THE INDIVIDUAL.


Squeeze
SO HE DESPERATELY HELD IT DOWN...
IT WAS SOMETHING HE COULDN'T SHOW ANYONE, SOMETHING HE SHOULD NEVER OPEN, BUT THE CONTENTS WERE ON THE VERGE OF FLYING OUT.
THE ONE MR. YANAGIDA WAS KEEPING INSIDE WAS SIMILAR TO OURS...

LIKE THIS.
THAT'S HOW YOU AND I HAVE BEEN CARRYING OUR PANDORA BOXES.
MR. YANAGIDA,
HE WAS ALSO...
CARRYING IT ALL ALONG
FOR A LONG, LONG TIME...

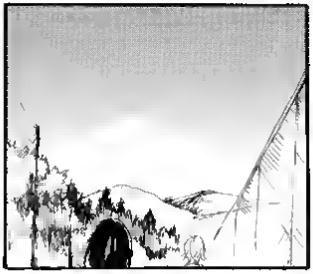
IT'S TRUE YANAGIDA WAS CARRYING A SIMILAR BOX TO OURS,
BUT I CAN'T FORGIVE HIS ACTIONS AS SOMEONE OF THE SAME BREED, AS A TEACHER OR AS A HUMAN.
IS THAT SYMPATHY?
Decadence
A subsection of Transcendance
BUT...
IF I...
IF I HAD...
MR. YANAGIDA WOULDN...
IF I'D ACCEPTED HIM,

STOP IT!
SLAP
STOP THINKING ABOUT SUCH...
`Sup!
RIDICULOUS THINGS...

DIDN'T YOU BUY BATTERIES THERE YESTERDAY AND THE OTHER DAY AS WELL? PLUS, YUMENO, YOUR HOUSE IS IN THE OPPOSITE DIRECTION FROM MINE AND YOU HAVE A HUGE SUPER-MARKET OVER THERE, TOO
UH, WAIT! THAT'S NOT WHAT I'M HERE FOR! MY OLD HAG TOLD ME TO BUY BATTERIES AT YAMANO ELECTRONICS, THE ONE ON YOUR WAY HOME, Y'KNOW
HMM? OH, EDOGAWA WAS DAMN PISSED HE SHOUTED SHIT LIKE, "JUST QUIT ALREADY!"
HUH? HEY, YUMENO, WHAT ABOUT SOCCER? ARE YOU OFF TODAY?
Even though I told him I had menstrual cramps!
AHAHAHA
THE BATTERIES AT YAMANO ELECTRONICS ARE THE REALLY GOOD ONES, OKAY?!
SH-
SHUT UP!
HUH?! DON'T BE STUPID! GOOD BATTERIES ARE THE ONES THAT SHINE LIKE THIS AND...
YUMENO
WHAT'RE YOU LAUGHIN' AT...
JUST... WHAT MAKES A BATTERY REALLY GOOD?
.....
PFFT

THANKS.

I...WANT TO DO THIS, SO IF YOU DON'T HATE IT, THEN...



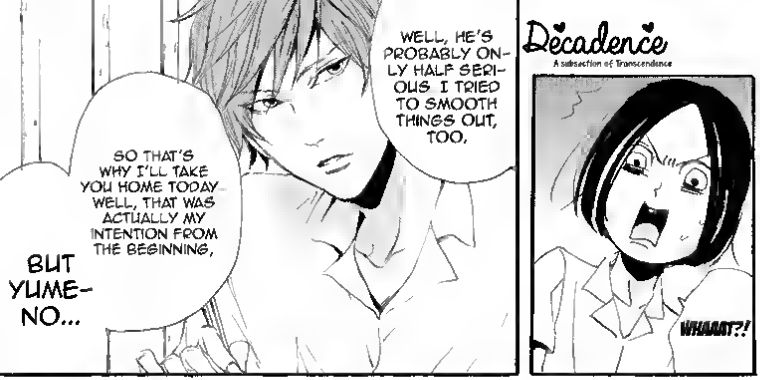
BUT I'M ALREADY OKAY.

SIGN: YAMANO ELECTRONICS
ヤマノデンキ
ヤマノデンキ
I THINK I'LL GO A BIT FURTHER AFTER ALL!
I'm coming along
HUH...? WHAT?
UHH...
WELL, THEN...
YEAH...
GEEZ, I'M FINE.

MISHI...
WAHHH!
Release
SORRY!
I'M SORRY.
YOU PROBABLY DON'T WANNA BE TOUCHED BY A GUY RIGHT NOW...
SORRY, I...
I'LL GO HOME N...

NO,
THAT'S NOT IT.
IT MIGHT EVEN BE THE OPPOSITE
ACTUALLY,
I STILL GET A LITTLE SCARED ON THE WAY HOME.
THANKS A LOT.
REALLY.
YUMENO.

"YUMENO, YOU'RE OUT IF YOU SKIP NEXT TIME, GOT IT?"
THAT'S WHAT MR. EDOGAWA SAID.


WELL, HE'S PROBABLY ONLY HALF SERIOUS. I TRIED TO SMOOTH THINGS OUT, TOO.
SO THAT'S WHY I'LL TAKE YOU HOME TODAY. WELL, THAT WAS ACTUALLY MY INTENTION FROM THE BEGINNING,
BUT YUMENO...
WHAAAT?!

I'VE CALMED DOWN A LOT ALREADY.
REALLY,
I'LL BE FINE AS LONG AS MY BIKE DOESN'T GET ANY FLAT TIRES.
TH-THAT'S ENOUGH, YOU TWO

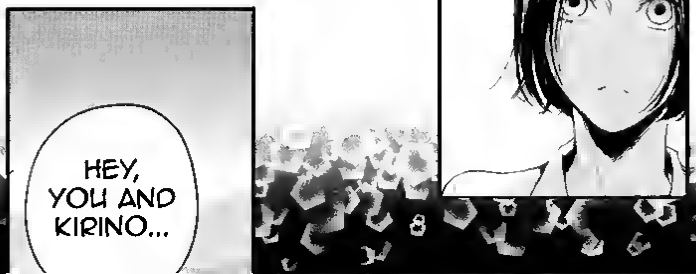
ON THE DAY YOU WERE KIDNAPPED, HE WAS ALSO DESPERATELY LOOKING FOR YOU.
Why're you saying this all of a sudden?
HUH?
It's pretty amazing he's not hurt
HE CYCLED RIGHT INTO YANAGIDA'S CAR AT FULL SPEED AND SHOUTED, "YANAGIDA, YOU DAMN PIECE OF SHIT!" AS HE PUNCHED HIM.
YUMENO IS PRETTY STUPID AND IMMATURE, A REAL HELPLESS GUY, BUT
HE HAS HIS GOOD POINTS, TOO.

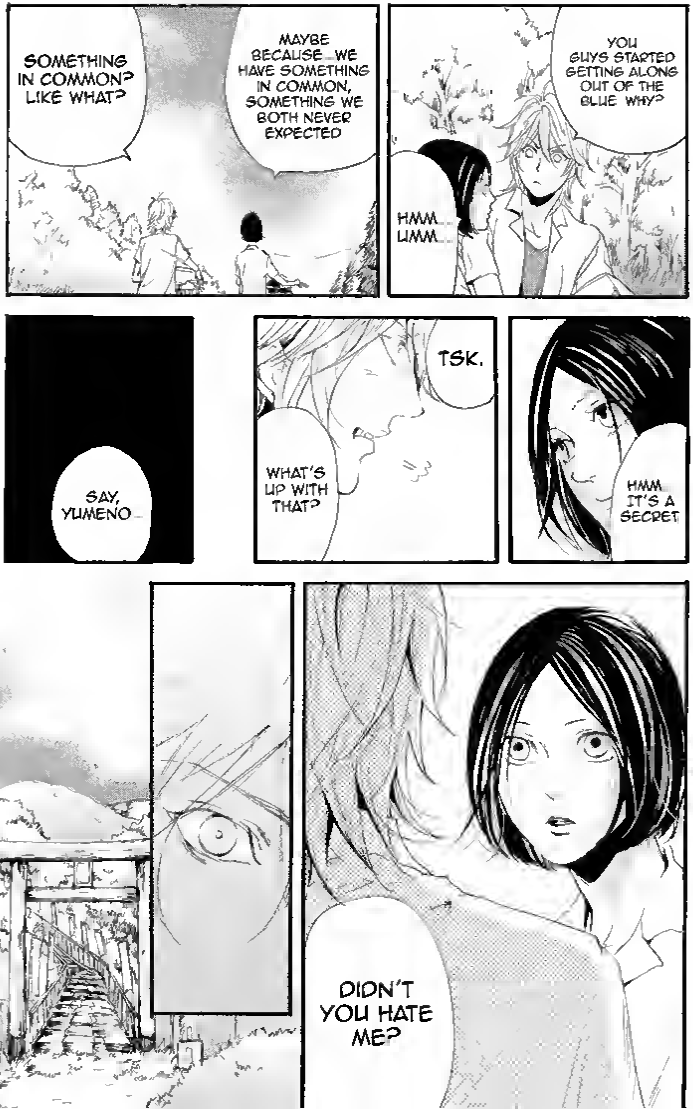
HE WAS KINDA COOL...
I ALMOST FELL FOR HIM,
YOU KNOW?
WHAT'RE YOU GOING TO DO ABOUT IT?
HUH?
WHAT AM I.. GOING TO DO ?
NOTH-ING,
BE-CAUSE, YOU KNOW

AND HIS EYES...
THEY'RE TOO DIFFER-ENT FROM OURS.
I GUESS YOU'RE RIGHT
YOU CAN'T DO ANYTHING ABOUT IT, HUH...
YEAH.
And I'm not talking about the color eyes!
I... I know that

HEY, WAIT A MINUTE, YUMENO ! DIDN'T KIRINO TELL YOU ANYTHING?
HUH? OH... HE SAID, "EDOGAWA'S GOING TO DROP YOU IF YOU SKIP TODAY, SO I'LL SEND MISHIMA HOME."
THEN WHY...
IT'S ME~ ☆
Heya! ☆

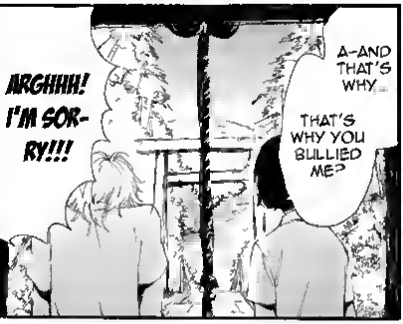
I'LL COME FOR PRACTICE STARTING TO-MORROW
WELL, I BEGGED HIM,
"JUST FOR TODAY."


HEY, YOU AND KIRINO...


SOMETHING IN COMMON? LIKE WHAT?
MAYBE BECAUSE... WE HAVE SOMETHING IN COMMON, SOMETHING WE BOTH NEVER EXPECTED
YOU GUYS STARTED GETTING ALONG OUT OF THE BLUE. WHY?
HMM... UMM...
SAY, YUMENO...
TSK.
WHAT'S UP WITH THAT?
HMM... IT'S A SECRET
DIDN'T YOU HATE ME?

I DIDN'T KNOW WHAT YOU WERE THINKING, AND I'D NEVER SEEN YOU SMILE BEFORE
EVEN THOUGH YOU HAVE BIG EYES, BACK THEN, IT LOOKED LIKE NOTHING WAS REFLECTED IN 'EM
YOU WERE ALWAYS IN A DAZE, RIGHT?
YOU CONSTANTLY LOOKED OUT THE WINDOW DURING CLASS
IT ALMOST LOOKED LIKE AN ILLUSION WHEN YOUR HAIR FLUTTERED IN THE WIND
YOUR HAIR...
Y'KNOW HOW YOUR SEAT'S IN FRONT OF MINE?
Decadence
A subsection of Transcendence
TH-THIS IS MAKING ME BLUSH
AND THEN, KIRINO...
SO I KINDA WANTED TO CHECK IF YOU REALLY EXISTED...
IT SEEMED LIKE EVEN IF I REACHED OUT MY HAND I STILL WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO TOUCH YOU. I GOT REALLY INTERESTED IN YOU BECAUSE OF THAT, AND I'VE ALWAYS WANTED TO TRY AND TOUCH YOU. TO TALK TO YOU

HE SAID THAT, SO I GOT ON THE BAND-WAGON...


ARGHHH! I'M SOR-RY!!!
A-AND THAT'S WHY...
THAT'S WHY YOU BULLIED ME?

"ISN'T MISHIMA A HOMO? I CAN'T BE-LIEVE HOW DISGUSTING HE IS."
"LET'S PLAY WITH HIM A LITTLE."

I REALLY DO THINK WE WENT TOO FAR WHEN WE CUT IT OFF I'M REALLY SORRY.
I WANTED TO TOUCH YOUR HAIR, BUT...
I THOUGHT I'D BE ABLE TO TOUCH YOU FOR SURE...
AND GET INVOLVED WITH YOU...

HUH?!
YUMENO, YOU'RE...
.....

YOU'RE ALL RIGHT.

But bullying isn't good.
Really?! Hehe.

YOU'RE KIND OF ALL RIGHT.
YEAH.

I'M SORRY FOR BULLYING YOU EVEN THOUGH
I LIKE YOU.

I PROB-ABLY...
I LIKE YOU, SO...

Ba-dump
Blush
AH, CRAP.
DAMN IT...
UH... AHAHA!
AHAHA-HAHA!!!
WOW, IT'S SO COOL HERE.
WATCH YOUR FOOTING. IT'S SLIPPERY.
"It's so hot, damn it!
Gets Up
Y-YEAH.
SWEAT
IT'S LIKE FRIGGIN' HOT, SO D'YOU WANNA GO THERE?!
OH!!! D-DID YOU KNOW THERE'S A CAVE ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THIS SHRINE?

OKAY.
WHEW, IT'S PRETTY COLD IN HERE!
WH-WHOA!
THE HOT FLASH IS ALMOST GONE
WHOA.
SEE?! I JUST TOLD YOU!
SLIP
CARE-FU...

Decadence
A subsection of Transcendance
BA-DUMP
"WHAT'RE YOU GOING TO DO ABOUT IT?"
BA-DUMP
BA-DUMP
BA-DUMP
"NOTH-ING"
"NOTHING AT ALL."
BA-DUMP
BA-DUMP
C-CAN...
CAN I KISS YOU?
M-MISHI-MA...
BA-DUMP

OH,
BUT...
Press
.....
YES...
WHAT SHOULD I DO?

SMELLS LIKE GREEN SPIRIT

BY NAGAI SABUROU

CREDITS

TRANSLATOR: CHITSAI-HIME

PROOFREADER: ARIADNE

CLEANER: NESSY

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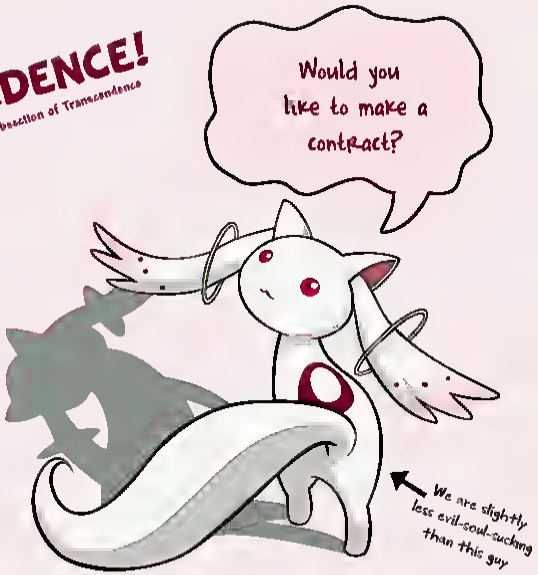

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Chapter 11
White-out

SOMETHING INCREDIBLE!!!
I SAW SOMETHING THE OTHER DAY!
HUMPH HUMPH
HUMPH HUMPH
IT WAS MISHIMA'S BOY, FUTO-SHI, YA KNOW!
IT WAS, WHADOYA-CALLIT, A LOVE SCENE BETWEEN BOYS!
NO!!!
WAS IT MASUDA'S WIFE CHEATING AGAIN?!
YOU DID? WHAT, WHAT?!

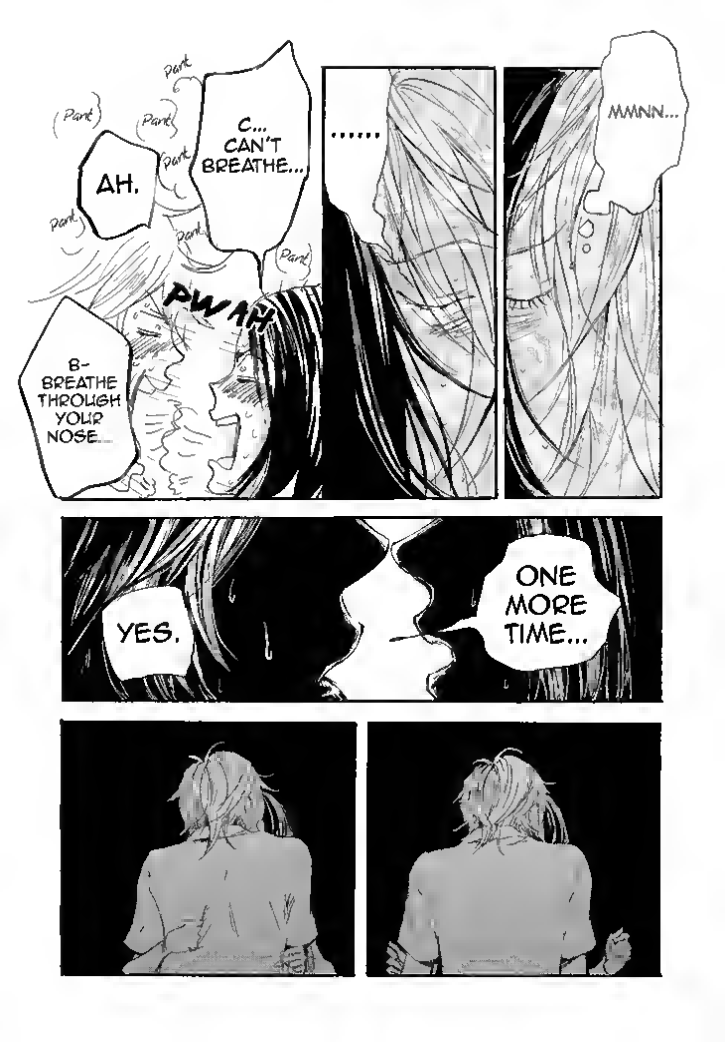
SMOOCH

.....
.....

NNN...

CAN..
CAN I DO IT ONE MORE TIME?
Y...
YEAH.

WHY...
WHY DIDN'T YOU CLOSE YOUR EYES?
Y-YUMENO, YOU DIDN'T, EITHER...


(Pant)
(Pant)
(Pant)
(Pant)
(Pant)
(Pant)
(Pant)
AH.
C... CAN'T BREATHE...
PWAH
B-BREATHE THROUGH YOUR NOSE...
.....
MMNN...
YES.
ONE MORE TIME...

Décadence
A subsection of Transcendence

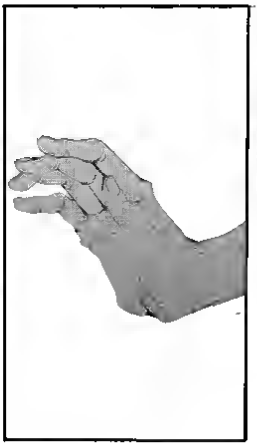
C...
CRAP.
DROOL
THE SOUND IS SO EMBARRASSING
FUUU
.....
KISS
WH-WHAT...
SH-SHOULD I DO...
MISHIMA...?
PANT
DROOL
Smack
NNNN...
PANT
FUUU
I...
I CAN'T STOP.
PANT

WHOA!
HAA
HAA
HAA
HAA
HAA
HAA
HAA
HAA
HAA
HAA
Y-
YUME-
NO.
HAA
HAA
HAA

Lick
KISS

AHH...
YUME-NO..
YOU'RE... SALTY.

SHADDUP.
YOU SMELL LIKE SWEAT, TOO...
YUMENO,



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AH...
AH...
YUMENO.
YUMENO,
WAIT A...

YA SEE, MISHIMA'S BOY, FUTO-SHI...
.....
.....
WHAAAT?! REALLY?! DOESN'T THAT MEAN...

WHAAAT?! WHATCHA TALKIN' BOUT THERE?

HE'S A HOMO?!

YUME...
AH...
I-I...
I...
GOTTA CUT THE GRASS! MY DAD ASKED ME TO...

Decadence
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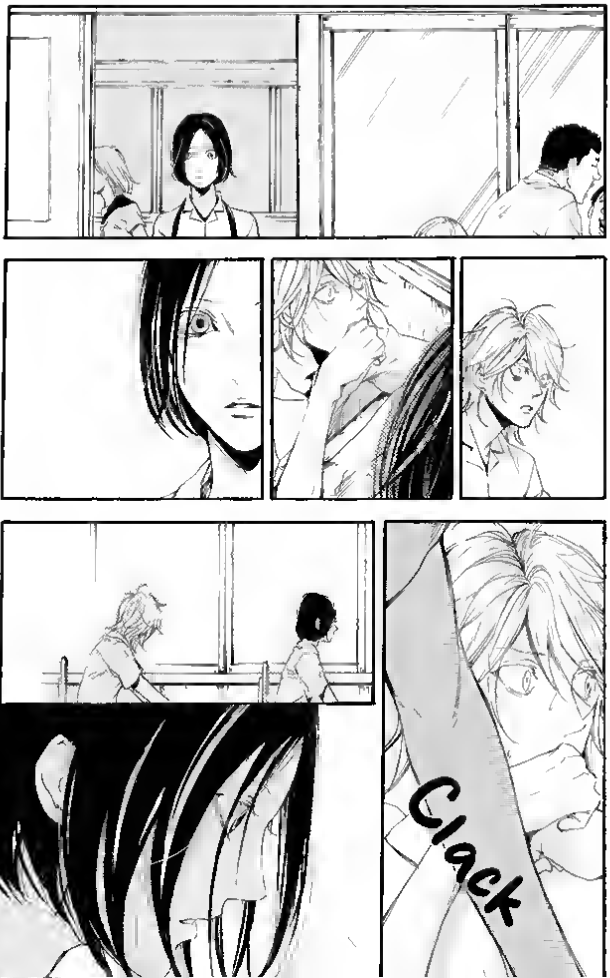
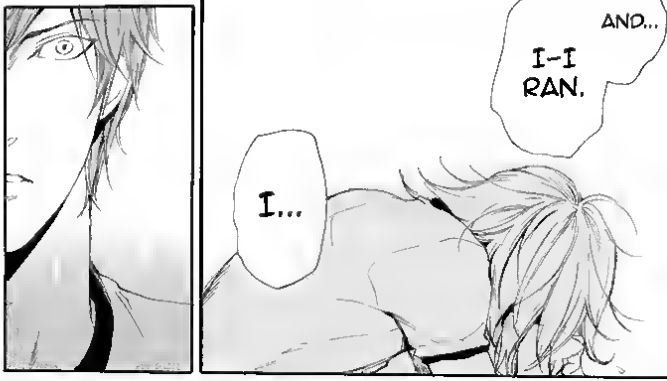
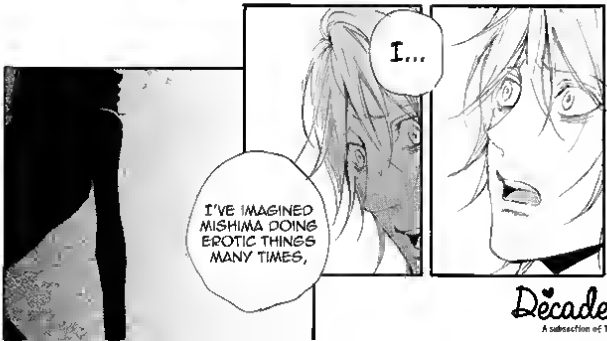
WHAAAT?


Clack

MISHI-
MAAA!
MY
HEAD
HURTS..
IT'S
TIME FOR
LUNCH.
AREN'T
YOU GO-
ING TO
EAT?
HEYYY,
MISHI-
MAAA~
DID
SOMETHING
HAPPEN WITH
YUMENO?

I...
CON-
FESSED
TO HIM...
TO
MISHI-
MA.
AND
THEN... I
ASKED IF
WE COULD
KISS...
SO WE
KISSED...
AND
THEN...
I
COULDN'T
STOP,
SO I
TOOK OFF
HIS CLOTHES,
HIS PANTS...





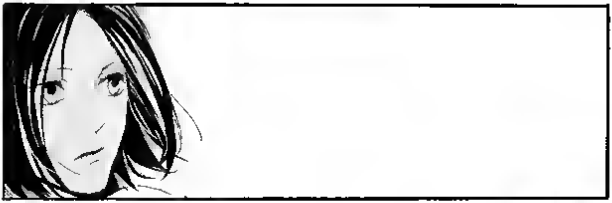
Decadence
A subsection of Transcendence

AND IN MY DELUSIONS,
HE DIDN'T HAVE BREASTS ...
AND HE DIDN'T HAVE...
A DICK, EITHER.
I'VE CALLED MISHIMA A HOMO SO MANY TIMES,
SO I SHOULD'VE KNOWN.
IT'S NOT LIKE I THOUGHT HE WAS A GIRL OR ANYTHIN'...
BUT...

WHAT I THOUGHT
"OH, IT'S DIFFER-ENT,"
THAT'S ..
WHEN I SAW HIS DICK,
I IMMEDIATELY REGAINED MY COOL
WHAT?
WHY'RE YOU CRYIN, KIRINO?
HUH ..? WHY.
B-BUT
IT WAS JUST US CALLING HIM A HOMO TO BULLY HIM
IT'S NOT LIKE HE S ACTUALLY A HOMO OR ANYTHIN
HE IS!

YOU'RE A LOST CAUSE!
THAT'S WHY I DIDN'T WANT IT TO HAPPEN...
BUT MISHIMA WAS ALWAYS WORRIED ABOUT IT
HE COULD NEVER TELL ANYONE!
KIRI-NO...?
YOU...
.....
GASP
I'M ALSO...
Run
Run
Run
Run

Mishimaaaaa!



PANT PANT
PANT PANT
PANT

I'M COM-PLETELY FINE.
IT'S NOT LIKE I HAD ANY FEELINGS FOR YUMENO ANY-WAY HE WASN'T MY TYPE TO BEGIN WITH

SQUEEGH

THE KISS WAS JUST A SPUR-OF-THE-MOMENT, TOO
THAT'S WHY I'M TOTALLY FINE.
I DID THE SAME THING TO FUJII AS WELL.
PLUS, IT'S OBVIOUS I'D BE FACED WITH REJECTION WHEN IT'S TWO GUYS
IT'S REALLY OBVIOUS.
I'M TOTALLY
FINE.

Decadence
A subsection of Transcendance

IT'S THE OBVIOUS THING,
SO...
OHHH, THAT' YES I HEARD BUT IS IT TRUE...?
BY THE WAY DID YOU HEAR? MISHIMA'S BOY, FUTOSHI...

SMELLS LIKE GREEN SPIRIT

BY NAGAI SABUROU

CREDITS

TRANSLATOR: CHITSAI-HIME

PROOFREADER: ARIADNE

CLEANER: NESSY

TYPESETTER: KOKOROMI

QC'ER: 'ROZE'

SCANPROVIDER: 'ROZE'

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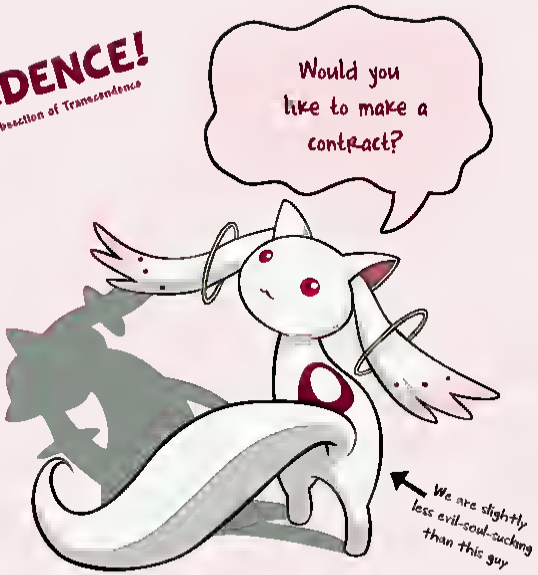

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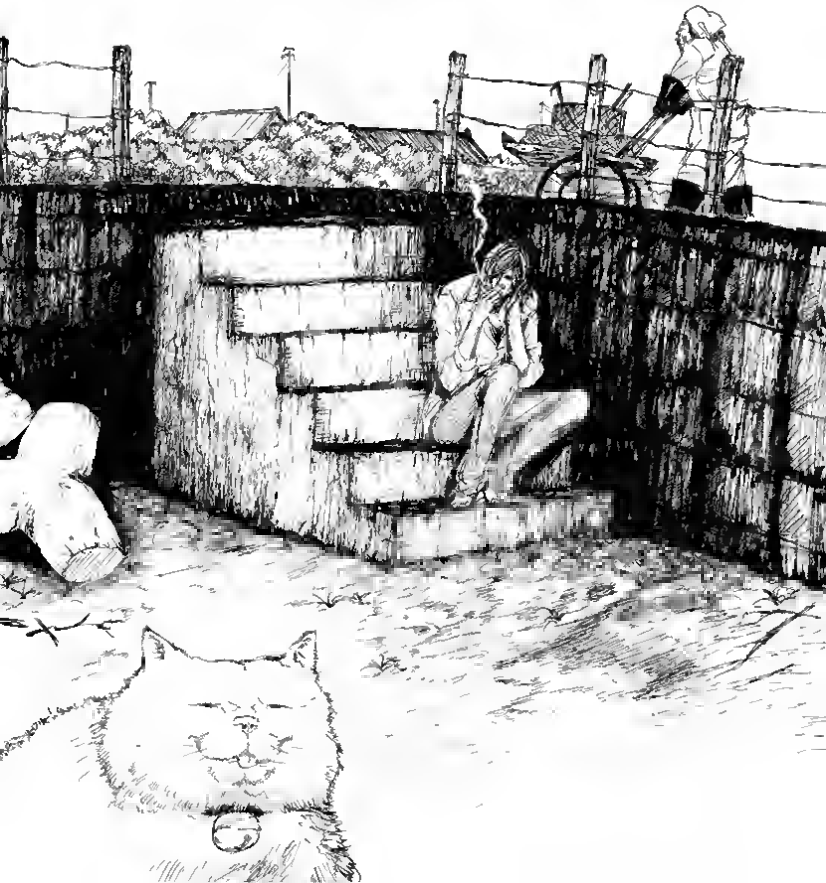
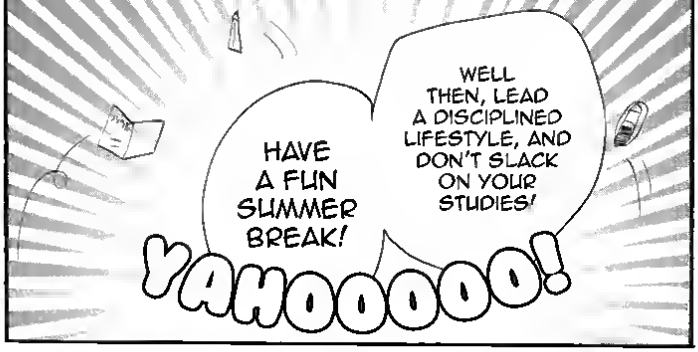
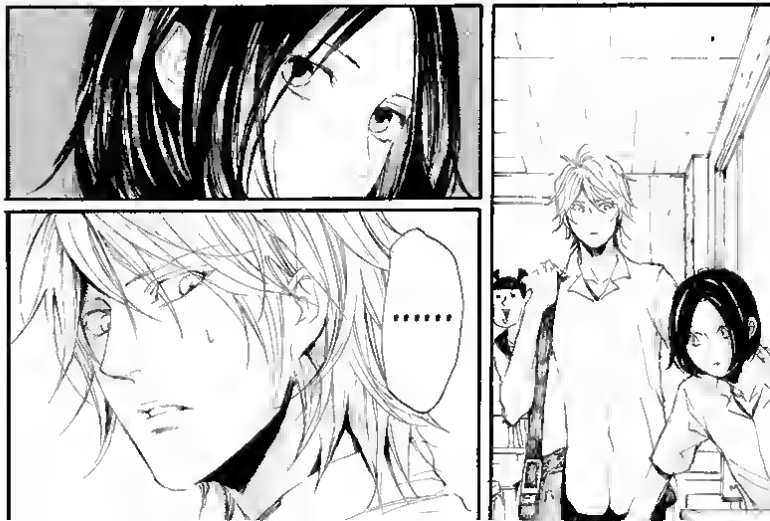
Chapter 12
Spiral of Curiosity




WELL THEN, LEAD A DISCIPLINED LIFESTYLE, AND DON'T SLACK ON YOUR STUDIES!
HAVE A FUN SUMMER BREAK!
YAHOOOOOO!


.....

MISHIMA.
LET'S GO HOME TOGETHER PART-WAY

AWWW, EVEN THOUGH IT'S SUMMER BREAK,
SIZZLE
WE'LL STILL HAVE A STRICT SOCCER PRACTICE SCHEDULE, STARTING TOMORROWWW

BAM
OWW!
GEEZ! WHAT THE HECK, YUMENO?! YOU FEELING DOWN OR SOMETHING?

I WANNA GO ON A WEEK-LONG TRIP WITH YOU GUYS~
.....
AND ISN'T THERE A CRAZY AMOUNT OF HOMEWORK?!
WE'VE GOT CRAFT PROJECTS, ESSAYS AND RESEARCH PROJECTS! ARE THEY STUPID?!

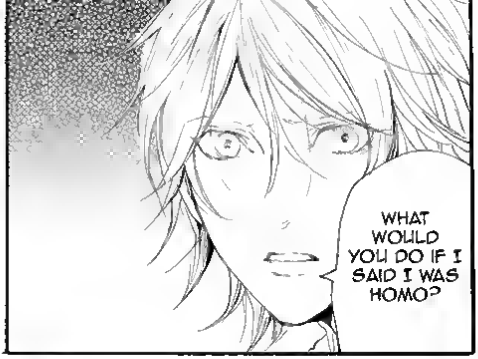
UH, OH, IT'S NOTHING...
WHAT ?
Don't stare so hard at me

NO, IT'S NOT LIKE THAT I JUST HAVE SOMETHING ON MY MIND.
YOU'RE THINKING ABOUT SOMETHING? SERIOUSLY?!
.....

MISHIMA, DO YOU HAVE PLANS FOR SUMMER BREAK?
NOPE, NONE AT ALL.
I'LL PROBABLY JUST BE HELPING MY MOM OUT ON THE FIELD OR DOING HOUSEWORK
OH, WHAT A GOOD BOY.
WHAT ABOUT YOU, KIRINO? YOU'RE BUSY WITH YOUR CLUB, RIGHT?
I GUESS THE TOURNAMENT'S COMING UP
ALSO, I'M GOING ON A TRIP WITH MY MOTHER WE GO EVERY YEAR, THOUGH.
HUH, THE TWO OF YOU?
YEAH, AND THEN MY MOM HAS A FLOWER ARRANGEMENT CLASS, SO I'LL BE HELPING OUT AT HER EXHIBITION
WOW
YOU'RE REALLY BUSY, THEN~
YEAH... BUT...
ON THE DAYS I'M FREE, LET'S GO PLAY SOMEWHERE.
JUST THE TWO OF US.
Yeah!!!
Decadence
A subsection of Transcendence

AHAHA! YEAH, IT'S SO WEIRD
THOUGH IT'S NOT LIKE I HAVE MY OWN CELL PHONE, EITHER
OHH, REALLY?
THAT'S RIGHT, WE DIDN'T KNOWN EACH OTHER'S NUMBERS ALL THIS TIME LIKE, IT'S KIND OF LATE!
AH...!
WHAT'S YOUR CELL NUMBER, KIRINO?
.....
I'LL TELL YOU MY HOUSE NUMBER
I NORMALLY GET THE PHONE ANYW...
Shaa
WHAT'S WITH THAT?
WHOOP-SIES
Wobble

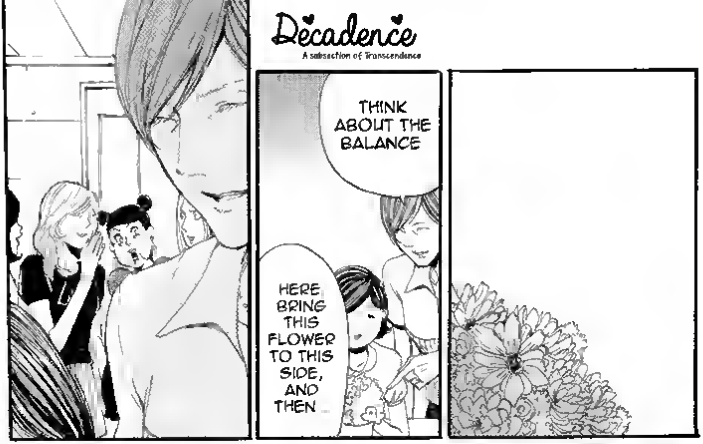
That's the real deal! That's gross, 'ey!!!
Whaaa~ I just get excited when I see him eating long banana-like things~
Ya know, that means you're a real homo! Ya just haven't realized it yet!!!
Haaa
.....
WHY'RE YOU SIGH-ING?! I'M THE ONE WHO WANTS TO SIGH!
THE WATE-MELON'S DELI-CIOUS~
COME ON, DON'T JUST WATCH TV LIKE THAT!
Oh~
CHOMP CHOMP
You idiot!
MMM, TAMON-CHAN! YOU'VE GOT Cs AND Ds IN EVERY-THING BUT PE!

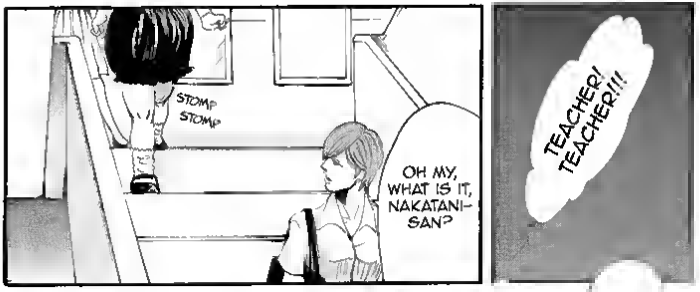


Decadence
A subsection of Transcendence

Ahh! No, it's just a figure of speech.
Son of a bitch...? Are you referring to me? Hmm!
Ohhh... I've been in Japan so long that I don't really understand slang like that!
PAT

WHY DID HE ASK ABOUT SOMETHING LIKE THAT...?
WHAT WAS WITH TAROU-CHAN EARLIER...?
COULD IT BE. THAT HE'S REAL-LY...
OH...! YUMENO-SAN.
UMM.. IS SOME-THING THE MATTER?
OH, HELLO.
HELLO..
.....
.....
HUHHH? HASEGA-WA-SAN, YOU SAY IT...
MAEDA-SAN, YOU SAY IT
Whisper
Whisper
Whisper
YOU SEE, EVERY-ONE WAS SAYING THIS...


THINK ABOUT THE BALANCE
HERE, BRING THIS FLOWER TO THIS SIDE, AND THEN...


STOMP STOMP
OH MY, WHAT IS IT, NAKATANI-SAN?
TEACHER! TEACHER!!!

YOU KNOW,
THIS IS SOMETHING ABOUT YOUR HANDSOME SON....
MA-KOTO?
WHAT'S THIS ABOUT MAKOTO?
UMMM...
EVERY-ONE WAS SAYING THIS...

WHIRR
WHIRR
WHIRR
Whew~
CLICK
CLICK

BAM
OUCH!!!
HEY! MISHIMA-CHAN!!!

WHIRR
WHIRR
CLICK
CLICK

WHIRR
CLICK
HUH?! WHAT ARE YOU GOING ON ABOUT?!
She's so annoying
WHIRR
SAY, DID YOU KNOW?! DID YOU?!

WHIRR
WHIRR
WHAT IS IT, KIKUCHI-SAN?!
CLICK
CLICK
HUH?! WHAT'RE YOU TALK-ING ABOUT? WE'RE IN THE MIDDLE OF WORK, YOU KNOW?!
MY~ I NEVER KNEW! WHAT A SUR-PRISE!

MISHIMA AND YUMENO WERE EMBRACING EACH OTHER.
OH, I HEARD MISHIMA AND KIRINO WERE HUGGING EACH OTHER.
I HEARD IT FROM MY MOM.
WHIRR
WHIRR
LIKE I SAID!
EVERYONE'S TALKING ABOUT IT...
WHIRR

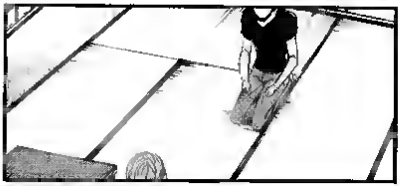
MY MOM SAID THAT MISHIMA WAS TWO-TIMING KIRINO AND YUMENO.
MINE SAID MISHIMA AND YUMENO WERE IN A HOMO RELATIONSHIP.
OH, I HEARD FROM MY MOM THAT MISHIMA AND KIRINO WERE KISSING.
HUH? FROM WHAT I HEARD, HE...
IS IT TRUE?
AH, HEY...

Decadence
A subsection of Transcendence

HAHA!

RIGHT, KIRI-NO?!
DON'T SPOUT STUPID SHIT LIKE THAT! THERE'S NO WAY...
NO WAY THAT COULD BE TRUE, RIGHT?! HAHA... THE OLD HAGS ARE JUST SEEING IT WRONG. DON'T JOKE WITH ME!
R...
RIGHT REALLY HOW CAN THEY SAY SUCH BASELESS THINGS...
MAYBE THEY WERE SEEING AN ILLUSION OR SOME-THING?
INFLAT-ING THESE RUMORS LIKE THAT IS A REAL PAIN

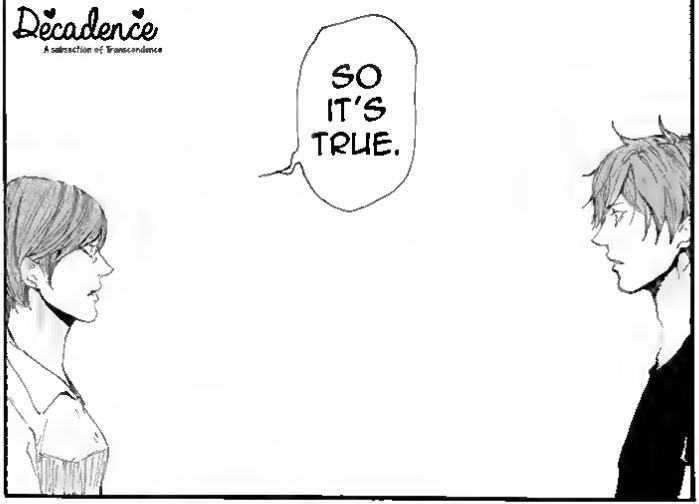
.....
RIGHT...
Yeah, that's right! That'd be seriously impossible!
Man, that sur-prised me!
GEEZ, COME ON, IF WE DON'T GO ALREADY EOOGAWA'S GONNA GET PISSED!
Yeah, let's go. Let's go!



IS IT TRUE?

THAT YOU WERE HUGGING...
AND KISSING...
A BOY...
YOU AND YUMENO-KUN WERE FIGHTING OVER SOMEONE NAMED MISHIMA-KUN...
YOU'RE SOMEONE WHO'S ATTRACTED TO THE SAME SEX?
THIS 'MISHIMA-KUN?'
TELL ME,
DOES THAT MEAN...
YOU...

I CAN'T BREATHE
THERE'S NO WAY THAT'S TRUE.
IT'S JUST... A RUMOR.


SO IT'S TRUE.

AHHH!

UGH...

NO!

I TOLD YOU IT'S NOT TRUE!

I SEE...
SO THAT'S HOW IT IS...

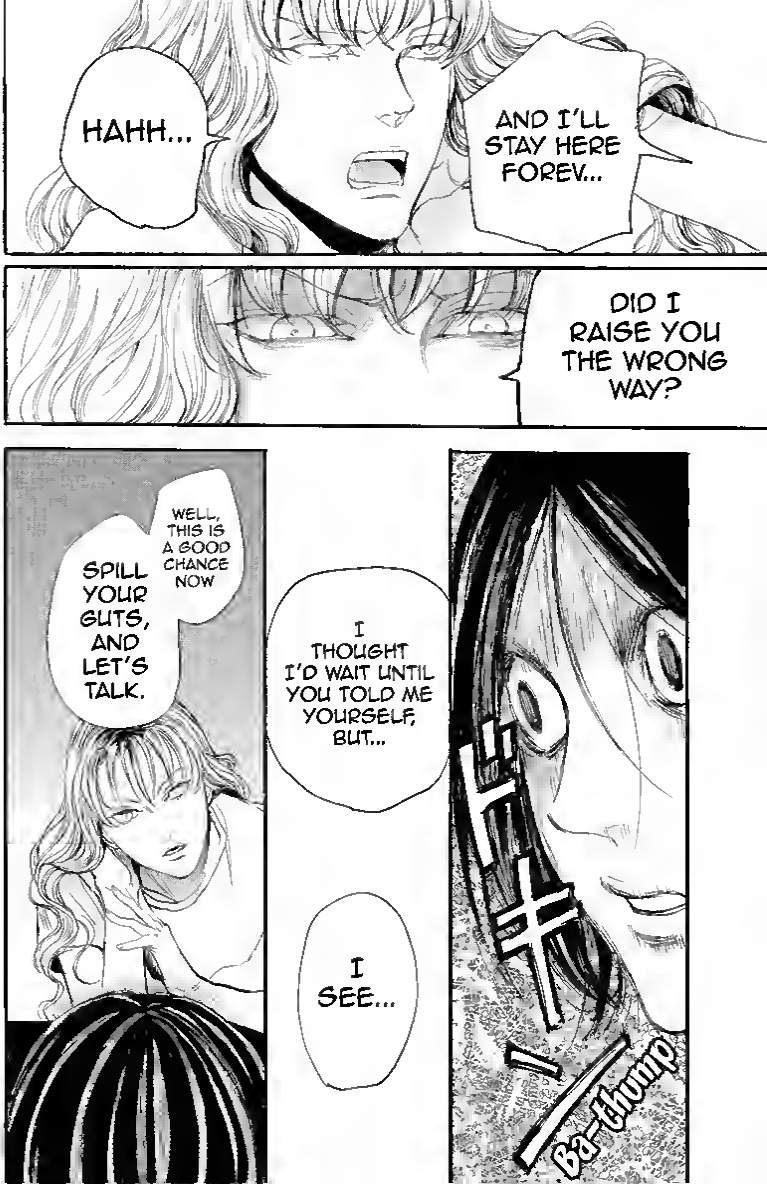
RUMORS ARE SOMETHING CREATED FROM MISUNDERSTANDINGS
PEOPLE FIND IT INTERESTING TO INFLATE THEM WITH THEIR OWN ADDITIONS
YOU'D NEVER BE ABLE TO TELL WHAT'S TRUE
BUT THEN...
WHY...
WHY HAS YOUR EXPRESSION CHANGED?
IS IT 'TRUE' THAT YOU ARE 'HOMOSEXUAL?'
AHHHHHH!!!

Décadence
A subsection of Transcendence

RaHH

G... GEEZ!
WHO'D MAKE A MISTAKE LIKE THAT?
THAT MIGHT'VE BEEN A MISTAKE...
BUT YOU ARE ACTUALLY GAY, AREN'T YOU?
N...
NO!
IT'S NOT TRUE.
WHY...

YOU THINK I NEVER NOTICED? DON'T TAKE YOUR MOM FOR A FOOL.
MAYBE IT'S BECAUSE YOU'RE MY KID THAT YOU'RE A LITTLE CLUMSY.
EVEN IF YOU TRIED TO HIDE IT, YOU COULDN'T HIDE IT AT ALL.
AND YOUR TYPE IS A HAIRY MACHO GUY, RIGHT?
...!
WELL, I FIGURED THAT OUT FROM YOUR REACTIONS WHEN YOU WATCH TV.
Decadence
A satisfaction of Transcendence
.....
BUT...
I...
IN THE FUTURE,
I DON'T INTEND TO LIVE AS A GAY PERSON.
I'LL GET MARRIED AND HAVE A KID...


HAHH...
AND I'LL STAY HERE FOREV...
DID I RAISE YOU THE WRONG WAY?
WELL, THIS IS A GOOD CHANCE NOW
SPILL YOUR GUTS, AND LET'S TALK.
I THOUGHT I'D WAIT UNTIL YOU TOLD ME YOURSELF, BUT...
I SEE...
Ba-thump

SMELLS LIKE GREEN SPIRIT

BY NAGAI SABUROU

CREDITS

TRANSLATOR: CHITSAI-HIME

PROOFREADER: ARIADNE

CLEANER: NESSY

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SCANPROVIDER: 'ROZE'

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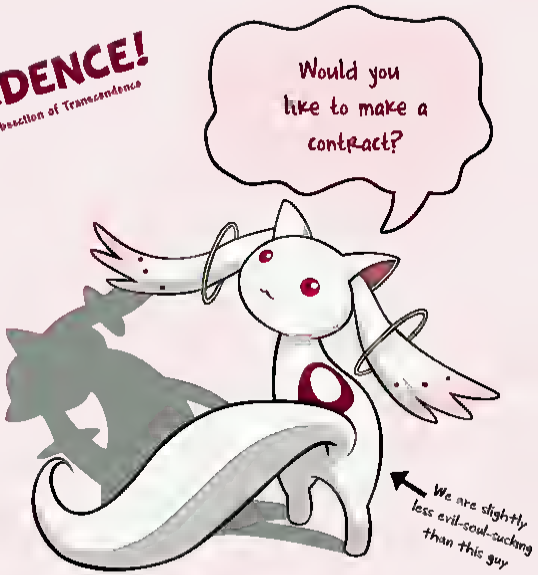

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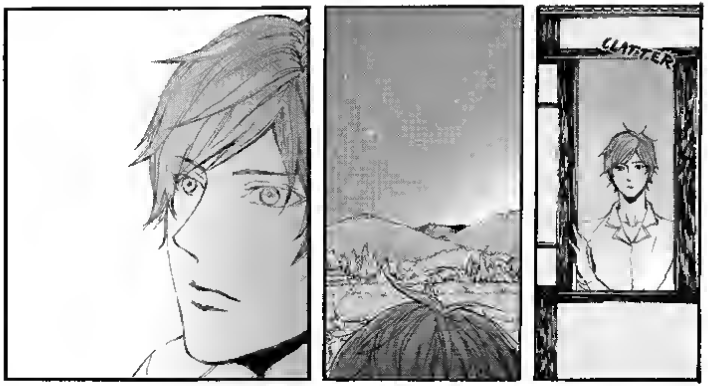
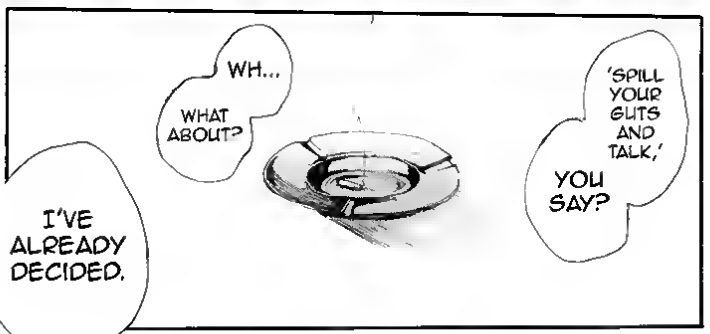
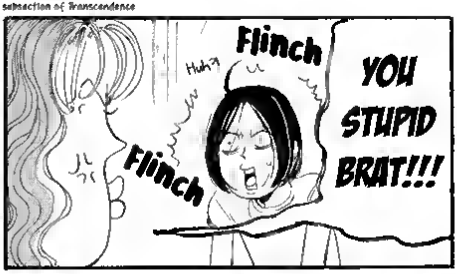
Chapter 13
From the Depths of Darkness

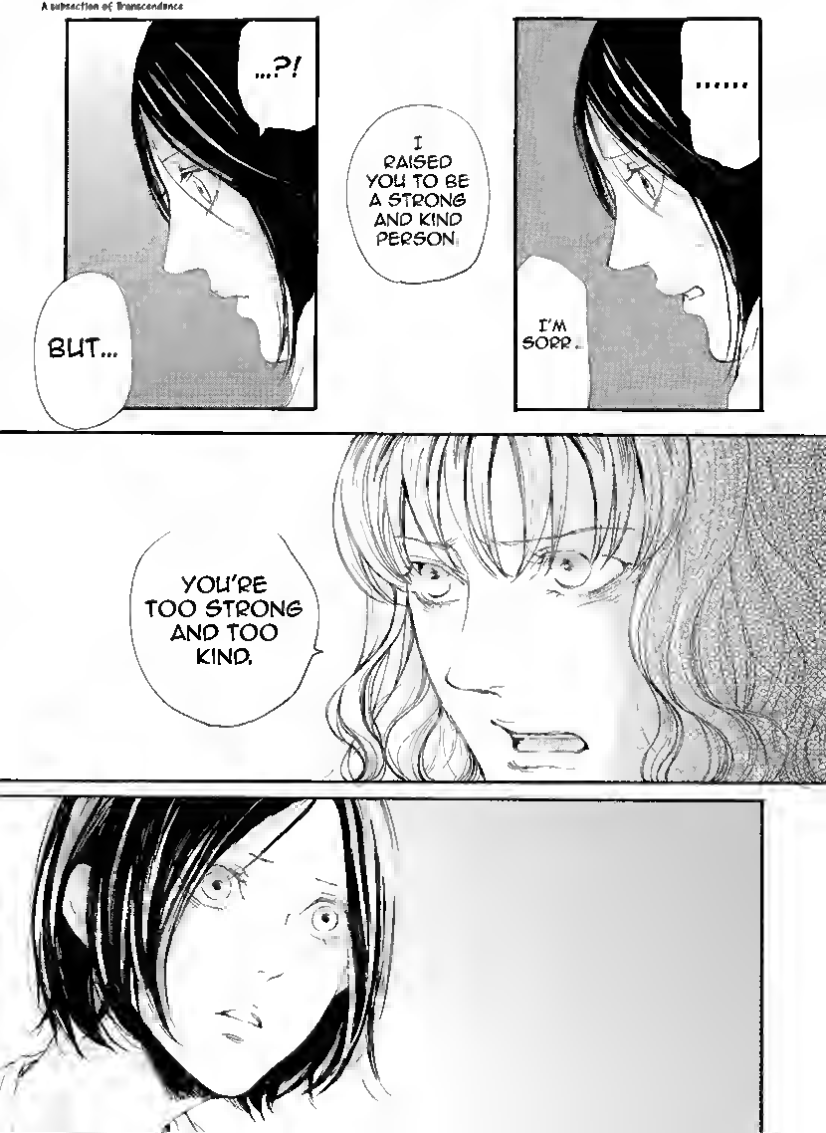

CLATTER


WH...
WHAT ABOUT?
'SPILL YOUR GUTS AND TALK,' YOU SAY?
I'VE ALREADY DECIDED.



*T/N THE RHYME FOR PINKY SWEARS IN JP HAS THAT CONSEQUENCE ATTACHED

IT'S WHAT I THOUGHT WOULD BRING THE MOST HAPPINESS...
BE-CAUSE
IT'S...
Sigh
TO YOU,
AND OF COURSE, TO ME AS WELL...
REALLY, I MUST'VE RAISED YOU THE WRONG WAY.
YOU'RE JUST A KID...

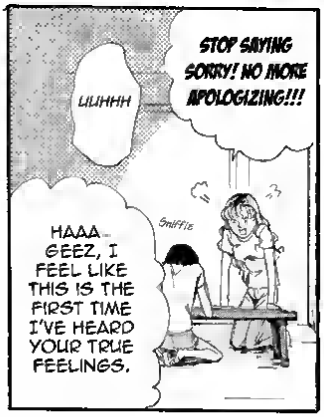

...?!
BUT...
I RAISED YOU TO BE A STRONG AND KIND PERSON.
.....
I'M SORR.
YOU'RE TOO STRONG AND TOO KIND.

IT'S JUST THE TWO OF US!
HEY,
WE'RE ALL EACH OTHER HAS FOR FAMILY,
YOU LISTEN-ING?!
BAM!!!
BUT I AM ME AND YOU ARE YOU!
WE EACH HAVE OUR OWN LIVES!
EVEN IF IT'S PAINFUL, YOU HAVE TO WALK DOWN YOUR OWN PATH!!!

IF ON THIS PATH YOU'RE GOING DOWN FOR MY SAKE,
AND YOU HAVE TO HOLD YOURSELF BACK AND GIVE YOUR-SELF UP EVEN A LITTLE—
IF THAT'S WHY YOU CAN'T GO DOWN THE PATH YOU WANT,
THEN THAT WOULD MAKE ME VERY SAD...
THAT'S REAL UN-HAPPI-NESS.

I'M SURE YOUR DAD UP THERE WOULD FEEL THE SAME WAY, TOO
DRIP
HEY, FUTO-SHI, YOU...
WHAT DO YOU REALLY WANT?

DRIP
DRIP
DRIP
DRIP
MOM, I'M SORRY... MOM...
TH...
THANK YOUUU.


STOP SAYING SORRY! NO MORE APOLOGIZING!!!
UUHHH
Sniffle
HAAA... GEEZ, I FEEL LIKE THIS IS THE FIRST TIME I'VE HEARD YOUR TRUE FEELINGS.

UUU..
UHHH...
HIC
HIC
I-I'M SORRY.
HIC

.....
THAT'S NOT AN ANSWER...

THAT NIGHT MOM AND I SLEPT IN THE SAME BED FOR THE FIRST TIME AGAIN IN MANY YEARS.

WE TALKED A LOT...

ABOUT MY FIRST LOVE.

ABOUT WHEN I SECRETLY PUT ON HER LIPSTICK.

ABOUT HOW I WAS BULLIED (MOM SORT OF NOTICED THAT).

ABOUT YUMENO.

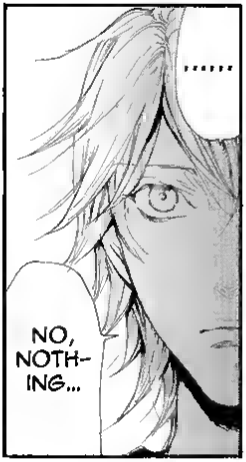
AND ABOUT KIRINO...

LIKE I WONDERED IF KIRINO'S MOTHER HAD HEARD ABOUT THE RUMORS

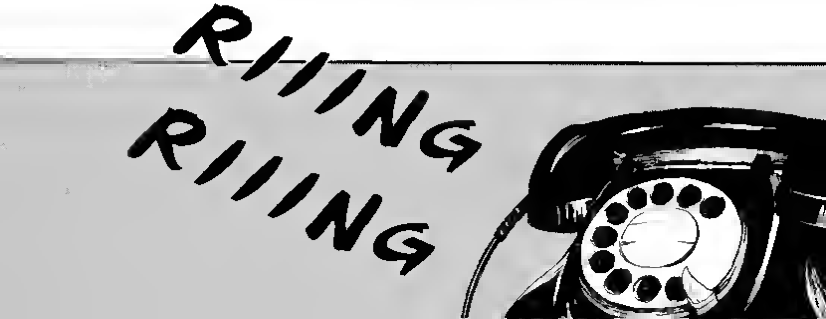
AND IF HE WAS ABLE TO TALK TO HIS MOTHER ABOUT IT...

HEY, YUMENOOO!

GEEZ! YOU AND KIRINO HAVE BOTH BEEN ACTIN' WEIRD LATELY YOU'RE ALWAYS SKIPPING...
.....
AND YOU SEEM TO BE DOWN LATELY YOU ALL RIGHT?!
WAAAH WAAAH


.....
NO, NOTH-ING...

WHAT, EDOGA-WA?
THAT BRAT, KIRINO, AIN'T HERE YET. HAVE YA HEARD ANY-THIN'?!
And you're calling me without a suffix again


RIIING
RIIING

.....
HELLO?
HELLO, THIS IS MISHIMA.
RIIING RIIING
YES, YES.
MISHIMA?
KIRINO?
UMM, I'M...
Now? I'm cleaning the toilet What's up?
YEAH, HEY, WHAT'RE YOU DOING NOW?

I'm going to Shangri-la.
WHAT?!
I DON'T CARE ABOUT THAT ANY-MORE!
I'M GOING TO SHANGRI-LA RIGHT NOW!
'SHANGRI-LA'? YOU MEAN TH... HUH?!
YOU'RE GOING NOW?! WELL, IT IS SUM-MER VACATION, BUT, HUH?! WHAT ABOUT SOCCER PRACTICE?
.....

Kirino, where are you right now?
THE PHONE BOOTH NEAR THE SHRINE
I'VE ALREADY MADE THE PREPARA-TIONS
Hey... stay there.
Wait at the shrine until sunset

KIRINO..?

.....

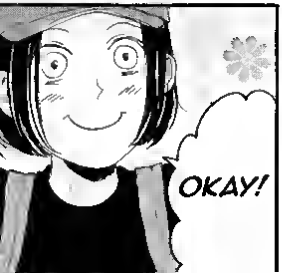
I'm going, too.

WAIT...
WHAT'S WITH THE OUTFIT, FUTOSHI? ARE YOU LEAVING HOME OR SOMETHING?!
I'm hommmeee~
THUD
MOM, I...
I'M GOING TO SHANGRI-LA WITH KIRINO.
SH... SHAN-GRI-LA?!
YEAH. CAN I?

SHANGRI-LA FOR YOU AND KIRINO-KUN,

HUH...

Décadence
A subsection of Transcendence



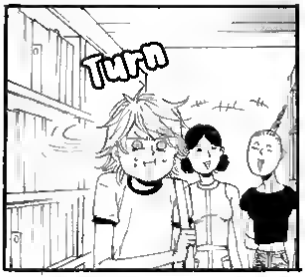
YOU SHOULD GO...
TO 'SHANGRI-LA'!

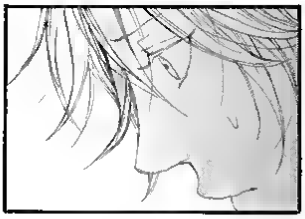
!

YOU'RE LATE! BUT I'M GLAD YOU CAME!
SORRY, I WAS WAITING FOR MY MOM TO GET HOME..

MISHI-MAAA~

YOUR MOM...
DOES SHE KNOW ABOUT THE RUMOR?
DID YOU...TALK ABOUT IT?
YEAH.
YOU KNOW.

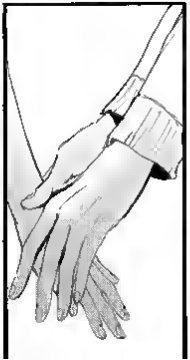

TURN



I SEE...

.....

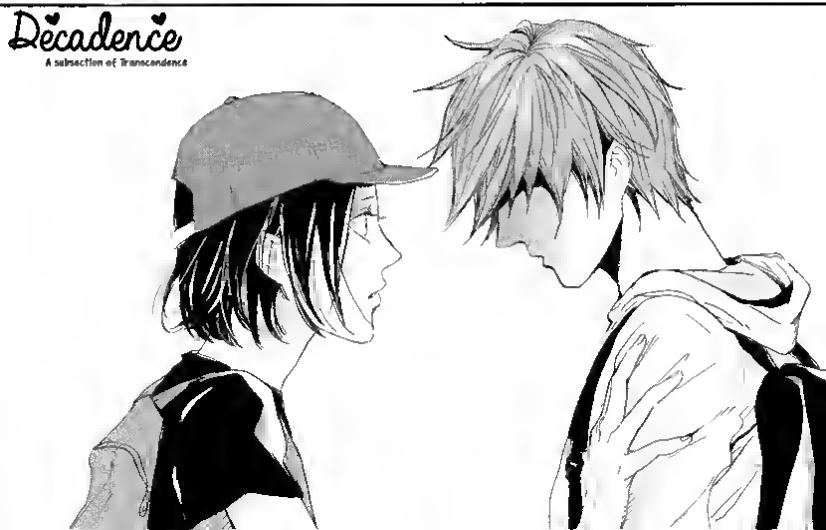
I'M HAPPY FOR YOU.



I SEE, I SEE...

KIRINO...
WHAT ABOUT YOUR MOM...?
YEAH...
WELL, LET'S GO!
TO SHANGRI-LA!
KYAA
KYAA

WAI...
WAIT A SEC, KIRINO.
SHANGRI-LA, AS IN THAILAND, RIGHT?
WHAT ABOUT PASSPORTS? AND MONEY?
DO YOU KNOW HOW TO GET THERE?
NO... I...
I HADN'T THOUGHT OF ANY-THING...
SHANGRI-LA... I JUST WANTED TO GET TO "SHANGRI-LA" NO MATTER WHAT.



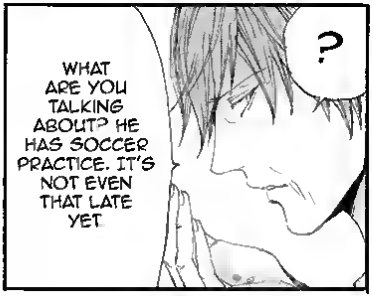
TOKYO...
LET'S GO TO TOKYO!!!
KIRINO.
TOKYO.
IT MIGHT BE A BIT OF A HASSLE, BUT IT'LL BE CHEAPER IF WE TAKE THE SLOW TRAINS AND KEEP TRANSFERRING.

I WANT TO GO!!!

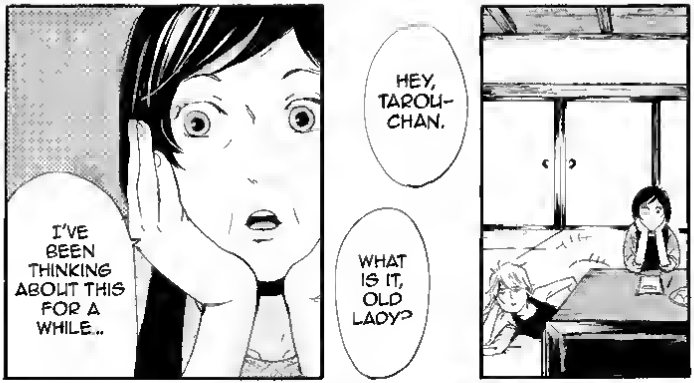
HM'AM !!!

OH, I'M SORRY.
IT'S JUST THAT MAKOTO-KUN HE HASN'T COME HOME YET

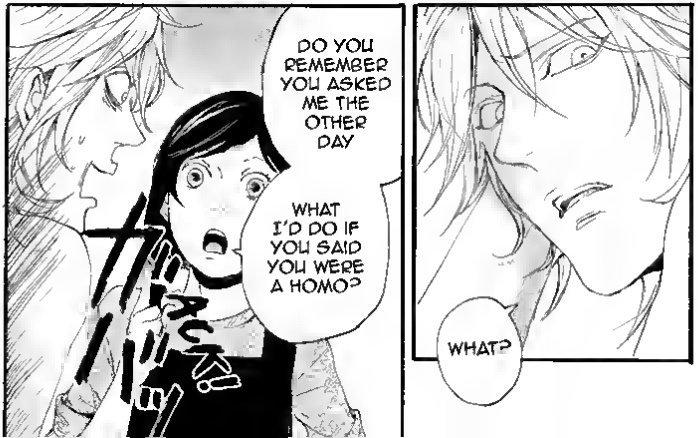
WHAT IS IT, FUMI-SAN? CAN'T YOU BE A LITTLE QUIETER?


?
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT? HE HAS SOCCER PRACTICE. IT'S NOT EVEN THAT LATE YET

W-WELL, WHEN I WENT INTO HIS ROOM EARLIER,
I SAW HE LEFT HIS BAG, HIS SOCCER GEAR AND HIS CELL PHONE BEHIND,
SO I WAS WONDERING WHERE HE WENT...


I'VE BEEN THINKING ABOUT THIS FOR A WHILE..
HEY, TAROU-CHAN.
WHAT IS IT, OLD LADY?

I GUESS THERE'S NO HELPING IT.

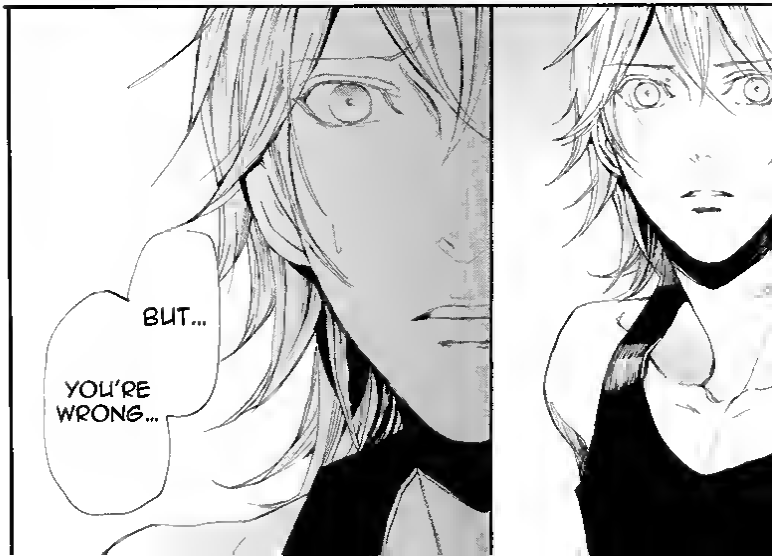

DO YOU REMEMBER YOU ASKED ME THE OTHER DAY
WHAT I'D DO IF YOU SAID YOU WERE A HOMO?
ガシッ!!
WHAT?

AH! YOU HEARD THE RUMOR ...?!
THAT'S RIGHT
...!
I'M WRONG?
SO YOU DON'T LIKE THIS BOY, 'MISHIMA-KUN,' EITHER?
TH-THAT WAS...
YOU'RE WRO...
.....
STARE
THAT'S RIGHT, YOU'RE WRONG.
I'M .. NOT A HOMO.
I DID LIKE MISHIMA,
BUT I LIKED 'MISHIMA,'
NOT 'MISHIMA AS A BOY.'

OH MY, WHAT A WASTE.
YOU KNOW, FALLING IN LOVE WITH SOMEONE, REGARDLESS OF WHETHER THEY'RE A BOY OR GIRL,
IS AN AMAZING THING!

HMMM?
HUH?

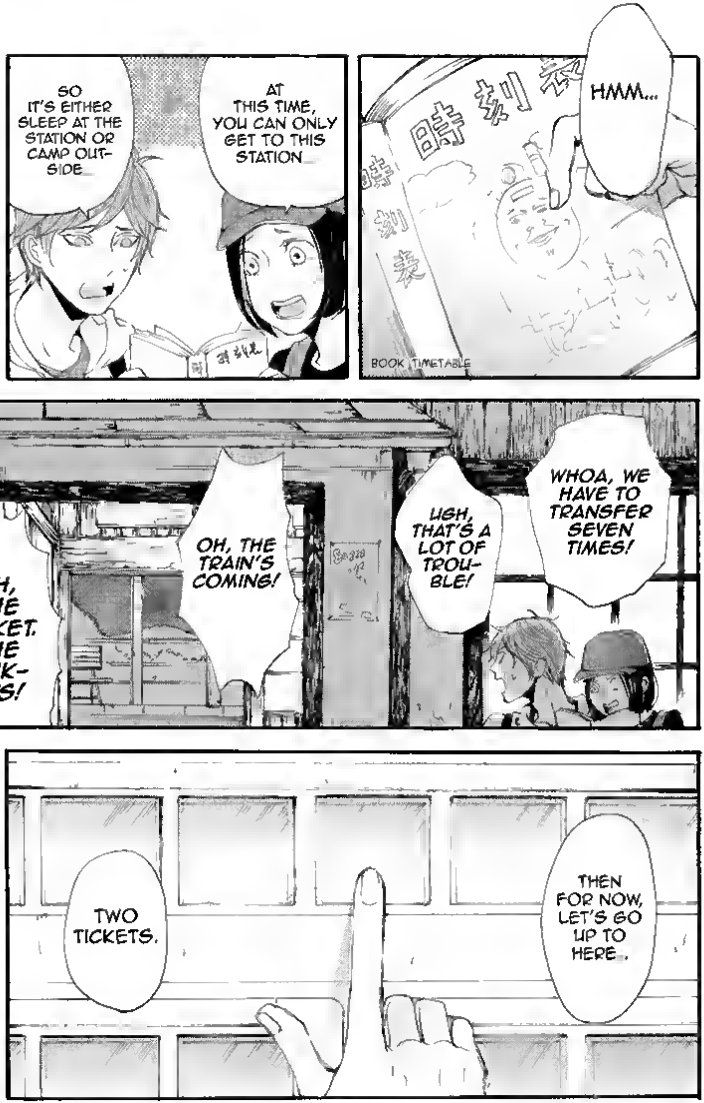
'LIKE' AS IN LOVE, RIGHT?
L.. LOVE?
W- WELL, PROBABLY...

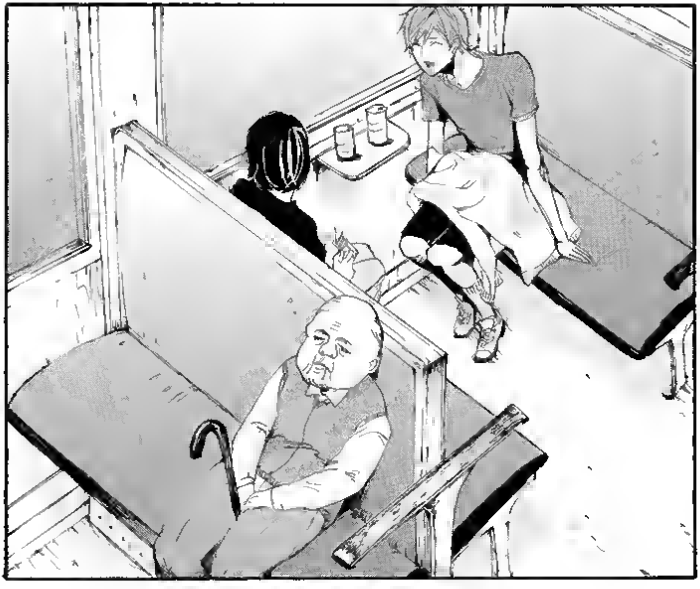

BUT...
YOU'RE WRONG...

IF YOU SAY YOU LIKE HIM, I CAN'T TELL YOU NOT TO, YOU KNOW.
.....
WELL, THAT'S WHY I SAID THERE'S NO HELPING IT EARLIER IF THAT'S THE CASE.
I SEE.
YOU WERE FEELING DOWN,
BECAUSE YOU WERE WORRYING ABOUT THAT, RIGHT?

YOU KNOW,
WHEN YOU CALL ME, 'OLD LADY,' I GET SO ANGRY THAT I WANT TO SINK YOU IN THE WELL SOMETIMES,
Huh?
BUT I KNOW THAT YOU'RE ACTUALLY AN AWKWARD,
PURE AND KIND CHILD
WELL, PURE AND STUPID ARE JUST OFF BY A HAIR, THOUGH!

RIGHT NOW, YOUR FEELINGS FOR MISHIMA-KUN ARE HANGING ON A SCALE, HUH?
I WONDER WHERE THOSE FEELINGS WILL TAKE YOU...


SO IT'S EITHER SLEEP AT THE STATION OR CAMP OUTSIDE...
AT THIS TIME, YOU CAN ONLY GET TO THIS STATION...
HMM...
時刻表
BOOK TIMETABLE
AH, THE TICKET. THE TICKETS!
OH, THE TRAIN'S COMING!
UGH, THAT'S A LOT OF TROUBLE!
WHOA, WE HAVE TO TRANSFER SEVEN TIMES!
TWO TICKETS.
THEN FOR NOW, LET'S GO UP TO HERE.



OH, I SEE. HE HASN'T GONE OVER TO YOUR HOUSE...

IT'S BECAUSE I...
I SAID SOME-THING LIKE THAT...
MA'AM?
I...
I...
NO, I'M SORRY FOR CALLING SO LATE AT NIGHT
WHAT...
WHAT HAVE I DONE...?
MA-KOTO !!!

MAKOTO!
MA-
KOTO!
MA-
KOTO!!!
MA'AM...
AHHH...
ドサッ
FWUMP

SMELLS LIKE GREEN SPIRIT

BY NAGAI SABUROU

CREDITS

TRANSLATOR: CHITSAI-HIME

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CLEANER: NESSY

TYPESETTER: KOKOROMI

QUER: CHITSAI-HIME

SCANPROVIDER: 'ROZE'

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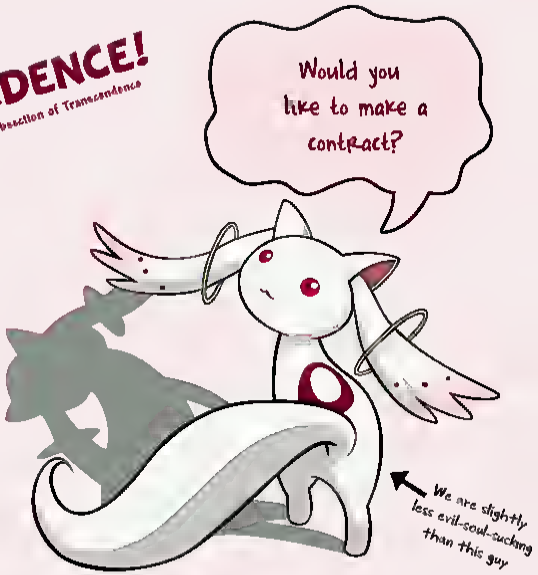

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- Proofreaders
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Final Chapter

Smells Like Green Spirit

KIRINO,
YOU ASLEEP ALREADY?
NO...
HMM?
.....
SOMETHING ON YOUR MIND?

*T/N ALSO KNOWN AS "NI-CHOME" THE GAY NEIGHBOURHOOD OF TOKYO

BUT ARE MINORS EVEN ALLOWED IN THAT AREA?
HMM...
WELL, YOU DON'T LOOK MUCH LIKE A KID NOT SURE ABOUT ME, THOUGH...
YOU LOOK MORE MATURE THAN YOUR AGE
ANYHOW, BEFORE WE GO, WE'LL HAVE TO PUT THIS RURAL-LOOKING KNAPSACK IN SOME LOCKER FIRST!

I'M SURE THERE'LL BE A LOT OF PEOPLE THERE...
LIKE US...

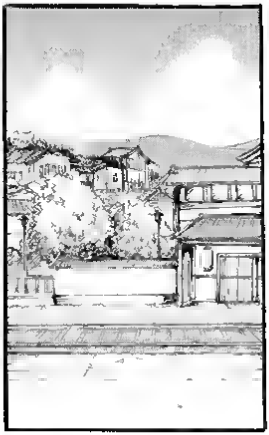
YEAH...

CLANG
CLANG
CLANG

OH...
SORRY.
DID YOU SAY SOME-THING?
KIRINO?
CLANG
CLANG

KIRINO, WE'RE TRANS-FERRING AT THE NEXT STATION

HUH?
THIS STATION...



CAN I...
CALL HOME ONCE?
I LEFT WITHOUT SAYING ANYTHING.
MISHIMA..
YEAH, OUR HOUSE-KEEPER.
FUMI-SAN?
I THINK FUMI-SAN WILL BE ANSWERING AT THIS HOUR ANYWAYS.
KLK-CHAK!
Yes?
BRRRR
BRRRR
BRRRR
BRRRR
BRRRR

WHY'RE YOU THERE AT THIS HOUR?
Makoto?!
...?!
FATHER..?

Your mother...
HUH?

Where are you?!
Come home at once!
.....

She's collapsed.

KIRINO...?
M...
MOTHER
Makoto?! Are you listening?
It's okay.
CO...

Last night, she was put on an IV and now she's home resting
It was probably from anxiety.
HAA
HAA
HAA
HAA
HAA
HAA
.....
AH...
What happened between you two?
Makoto.
She was repeating deliriously,
"Makoto, I'm sorry. I'm sorry, Makoto."

Come home already.

MISHI-
MA,
I'M
SORRY
Sigh
I
CAN'T
GO.
TO
TOKYO.
DID
SOME-
THING
HAP-
PEN?

IT LOOKS LIKE I'M NO GOOD...

IF MY MOTHER ISN'T SMILING.

IN THE END.

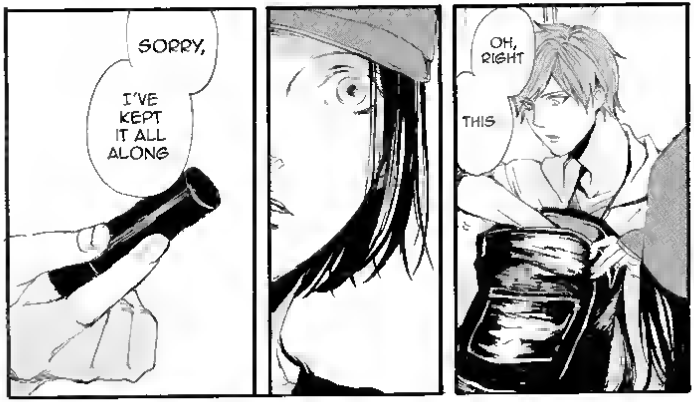
WE COULDN'T GO ANYWHERE.

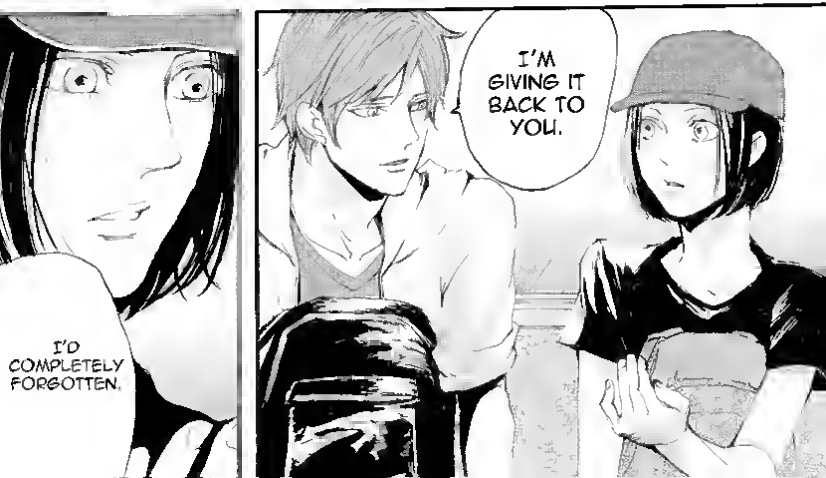
MOTHER AND I TOURED THE STREETS TOGETHER IN THE SNOW.
GRAB
IT WAS HIGH SEASON,
SO THERE WERE MANY HAPPY-LOOKING COUPLES AND FAMILIES.
MOTHER'S FACE SLOWLY DARKENED LITTLE BY LITTLE.

I CAN STILL REMEMBER...
MOTHER'S CRINKLED SMILE FROM BACK THEN
HEY,
DON'T YOU THINK I'M SUCH A DESPICABLE GUY?
Décadence
I PUSHED THE IRRITATION I HAD NO OUTLET FOR ONTO YOU AND MADE IT YOUR FAULT EVEN THOUGH YOU WERE GOING THROUGH THE SAME SUFFERING
I'M THE WORST, RIGHT?
I HAVE TO BECOME STRONGER...

I MADE THIS DECISION FOR MYSELF
I WON'T BLAME IT ON ANYONE OR ANYTHING.
THAT'S WHY I WON'T BREAK LIKE YANAGIDA DID.
I HAVE TO BE STRONGER.
LIKE YOU.
I MIGHT THINK OF THIS AS A 'HUGE EFFORT' RIGHT NOW, BUT THERE MAY COME A DAY WHEN IT'LL NO LONGER BE
I MAY BE ABLE HAVE A HAPPY MARRIAGE WITH SOMEONE I FIND PRECIOUS
I'LL GO HOME AND TRY TO TALK WITH MY MOTHER
I'LL TRY TO EXPRESS MY FEELINGS AFTER SHE UNDERSTANDS WHO I AM
IT MIGHT TAKE A WHILE BEFORE WE REACH AN UNDERSTANDING, BUT—
I DON'T KNOW IF THE PATH I CHOSE BACK THEN WAS RIGHT, EITHER.
THERE'S PROBABLY NO RIGHT OR WRONG.
I COULDN'T SAY ANYTHING MORE TO HIM.

YOU SEE, MY HANDS...
MY JOINTS ARE BECOMING MORE APPARENT.
AND MY LEG HAIR'S GETTING DARKER, TOO.
MY VOICE IS GETTING DEEPER,
DID YOU KNOW?
I'M THE TALLEST IN OUR YEAR.
HEHE
IT WAS SO PAINFUL.
THAT'S WHY IT'S OKAY.
IT'S FINE LIKE THIS.


SORRY,
I'VE KEPT IT ALL ALONG
OH, RIGHT
THIS


I'D COMPLETELY FORGOTTEN.
I'M GIVING IT BACK TO YOU.

I'VE STOPPED CROSS-DRESSING AT NIGHT,
SINCE I STARTED TALKING TO YOU ON THE ROOF.

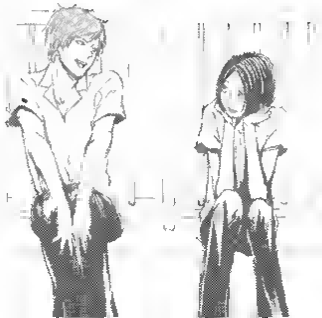
ON THE ROOF. WE COULD OPEN OURS AND SHOW EACH OTHER THE CONTENTS.
PANDORA'S BOX.
AND I'M SURE KIRINO COULDN'T OPEN IT ALL THIS TIME...
I COULD ONLY OPEN IT SECRETLY AT NIGHT...

THAT LIPSTICK IS THE KEY..
TO MY PANDORA'S BOX.
I'M ENTRUSTING IT TO YOU.

JUST ONE SUMMER...
Squeeze

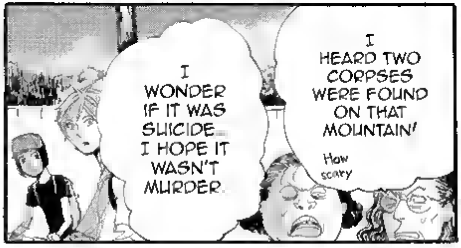
WAS FOR JUST A SHORT MOMENT.
OUR TREASURED TIME...

IT WAS FUN...
REALLY FUN.



YEAH.
IT WAS FUN...
CLANG
CLANG
CLANG

WHAT'S THAT?


I WONDER IF IT WAS SUICIDE... I HOPE IT WASN'T MURDER.
I HEARD TWO CORPSES WERE FOUND ON THAT MOUNTAIN!
How scary

I FLASHED A GLANCE BELOW THE SHEETS JUST NOW, AND THERE WERE BONES!
I BET THEY'RE STILL ROLLING AROUND ON SOME MOUNTAIN NEARBY

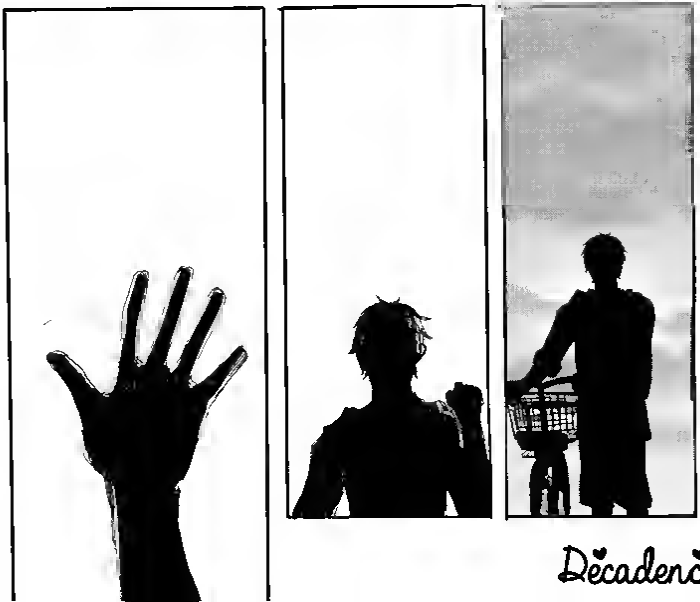
I HOPE SO.
I THINK THEY'LL BE SO BUSY WITH THE RUMORS ABOUT THE CORPSES THAT THEY'LL FORGET ALL ABOUT US.

I'M THIS WAY, SO...
WE'LL PART HERE.
WELL THEN...

YEAH...
SEE YOU.

MISHIMA!
DO YOUR BEST!

KIRINO!
YOU, TOO! DO YOUR BEST!



IT WAS A DECISION MADE FOR HAPPINESS.

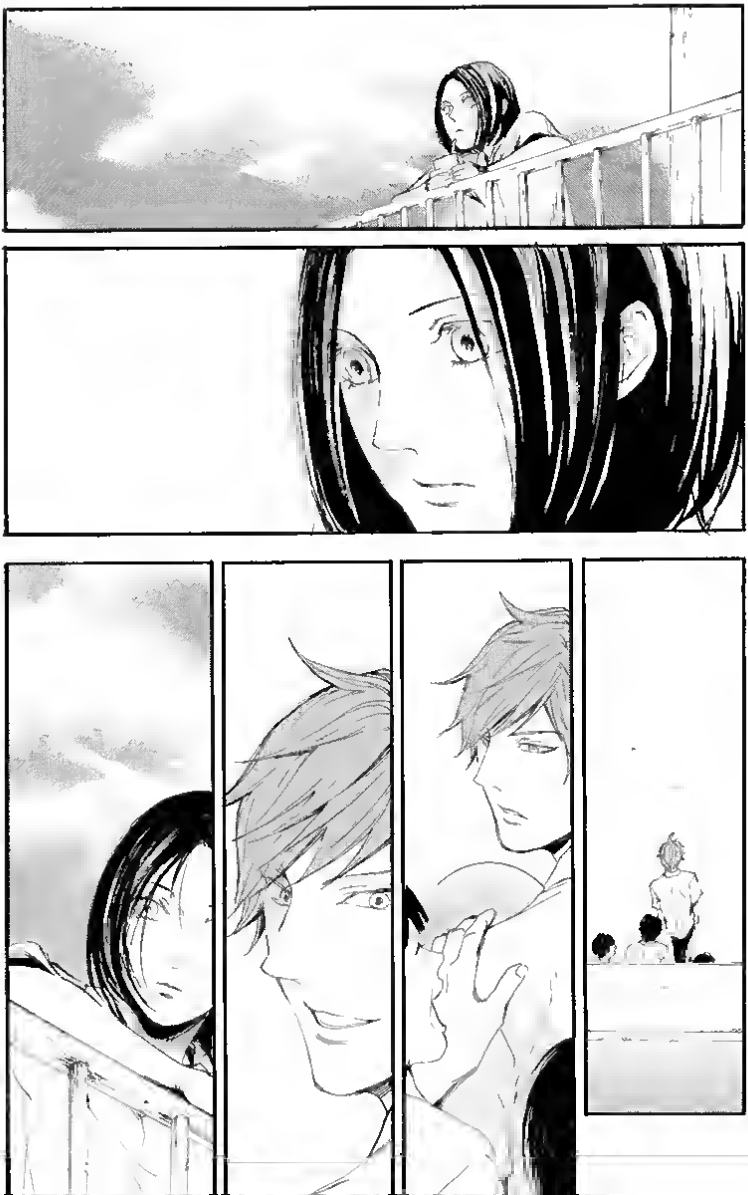
WE BOTH MADE OUR DECISIONS.

HIS EYES NO LONGER SHOWED RESIGNATION.

WE CHOSE THE PATHS WE WOULD WALK.

THAT
OUR PATHS
WOULD NEVER
CROSS AGAIN.

WAS
BECAUSE I
KNEW...



Décadence

I LOOKED THINGS UP FOR MYSELF,
IN BOOKS AND ON THE NET AND SUCH, BECAUSE I WANTED TO UNDERSTAND

AT LEAST WHAT I BELIEVE IS 'UNDERSTANDING,' THIS IS WHAT I THINK.
WELL,
AND SO, AFTER FULLY UNDER-STANDING..

YOUR CHOICE WAS CORRECT.

NO...
I DON'T REALLY KNOW WHAT IS CORRECT OR NOT.
BUT WHEN I THOUGHT ABOUT YOUR HAPPINESS AS A PARENT,
THIS WAS WHAT I BELIEVED...
BUT IS IT... WRONG FOR ME TO THINK THIS?

MISHIMA!!!
UH...
UH, Y'KNOW...

I...
I'M A HUGE IDIOT.
Décadence
I ONLY HAVE C'S AND D'S ON MY REPORT CARD, EXCEPT FOR PE
MY DAD'S AMERICAN, BUT I DON'T UNDERSTAND A WORD OF ENGLISH
AND I'M THE WORST AT JAPANESE,
SO I DUN REALLY HAVE THE BRAINS TO THINK, Y'KNOW
'N SO, UMM...
.....

I'VE BEEN THINKIN' BOUT THIS THE WHOLE TIME...
ABOUT YOU...
OH, THIS...
THIS HERE!
BOOK: CONFESSING TO THE SAME SEX
I BOUGHT IT...AND READ IT...
AND THOUGHT A LOT ABOUT THINGS.

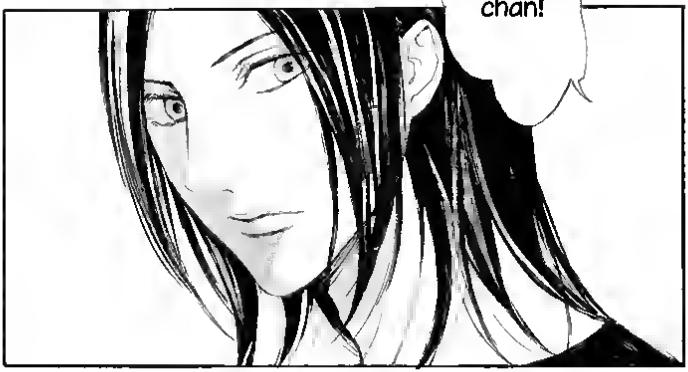
I THOUGHT ABOUT YOU, AND ABOUT KIRINO.
I WAS WORRIED ABOUT WHAT YOU'D BEEN THINKING ABOUT ALL THIS TIME...
THE ENTIRE TIME.
THE ENTIRE TIME...?
SO YOU'VE BEEN THINKING ABOUT IT FOR MORE THAN A YEAR?
YOU'RE SO STUPID...
.....
THAT'S WHY...
I'M AN IDIOT.

SO I...
I WANT TO KEEP THINKING ABOUT YOU... FROM NOW ON, TOO.
THOSE ARE MY THOUGHTS, BUT...
IS THAT A NO GO...?

TEACHER!
OH, KIRINO!
CONGRATS ON GRAD-UATING!
PLEASE GIVE ME THE *SECOND BUTTON OF YOUR SUIT.
MR. EDOGAWA,
H-HUH?!
WHAT'S WRONG WITH YOU? YOU'RE SAYING SUCH GIRLY STUFF...
I LIKE YOU, MR. EDOGAWA.

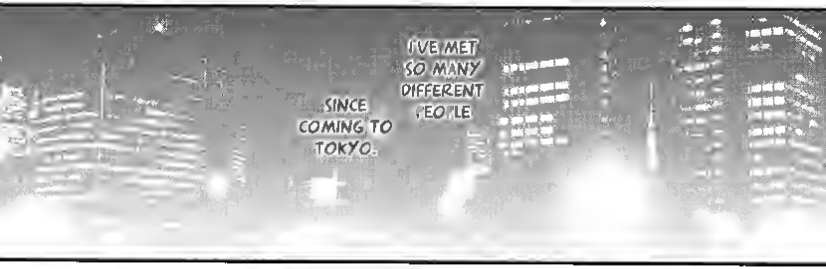
*T/N: IN JAPAN, YOU PLUCK UP YOUR COURAGE AND ASK FOR THE SECOND BUTTON OF THE GUY YOU LIKE WHEN YOU GRADUATE.

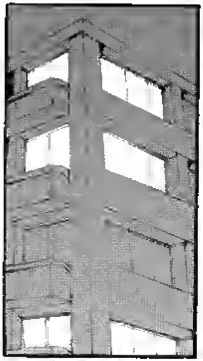
I PROBABLY LIKED YOU AS A FATHER.
HUHHH?!
LIKE I WISH SOMEONE LIKE YOU WERE MY DAD.
HEY, HEY, HEY
I'M SHOO HAPPY~ AND SHOO SAD NOWWW~
K... KIRINOOO! DAMN, YOU'RE SAYING SUCH DISTRESSING STUFF...


Mishima-
chan!

RIGHT~
Oh, Julie, that eye make-up is super cute. ♡
Morning~ ♡ I'm counting on you today.
Mai-chan, morning. ♡
OH YEAH, THERE AROUND YOUR CHIN
BUT MY SKIN IS GROSS RIGHT NOW, IT'S SO ANNOYING. PLUS, IT'S JUST BEFORE MY PERIOD
TELL ME YOUR SECRETS~
YOU'RE SO LUCKY, MISHIMA-CHAN EVEN THOUGH YOU'RE A GUY, YOUR SKIN'S NICER THAN OURS. I'M JEALOUS THAT'S HOW GOOD YOU LOOK WITHOUT MAKE-UP
SERIOUSLY IT'S WORSE IF YOU SLAB ON TOO MANY THINGS
HUH? YOU ONLY USE HORSE OIL?! NO WAY!
No can do! I'm not telling anything to uglies!
BOO, YOU'RE SUCH A TEASE.
JUST KIDDING. THE TRUTH IS I ACTUALLY DON'T DO MUCH. HORSE OIL IS THE BEST!
MOM RECOMMENDED I GO TO THE CITY.
AFTER I GRADUATED FROM MY LOCAL HIGH SCHOOL.

YOU CAN'T BREATHE IN A RURAL PLACE LIKE THIS RIGHT?
IT WAS IN ORDER TO
ATTEND A BEAUTICIAN SCHOOL IN TOKYO.
AND ALSO
BUT I ALWAYS FELT SUFFOCATED.
I DIDN'T HATE IT THERE...
HEY, MISHIMA-CHAN. YOU'RE COMPETING IN "DRAG QUEEN NIGHT" NEXT WEEK, RIGHT?
OF COURSE!
Kyaaa! ♡ I can meet the charismatic drag queen "Missy" again. ♡
missy
We're huge fans of the beautiful Missy!
I'm right here, you know
"I'M MISHIMA'S STAGE NAME "MISSHY" IS ROMANIZED AS MISSY.


SINCE COMING TO TOKYO.
I'VE MET SO MANY DIFFERENT PEOPLE.



PEOPLE WHO LAUGH, SAYING THEY 'DON'T CARE ABOUT GENDER'...
PEOPLE WHO ARE PROUD TO BE GAY...
PEOPLE THAT, LIKE ME, USED TO SECRETLY PUT ON THEIR MOM'S LIPSTICK...

Ker-chak

PEOPLE WHO CARRY NEITHER HOPE NOR A FUTURE...
ONE OF MY CROSS-DRESSING FRIENDS COMMITTED SUICIDE THREE MONTHS AGO.

I'M BACK.
HUH? YOU'RE HOME ALREADY.

WELCOME HOME.

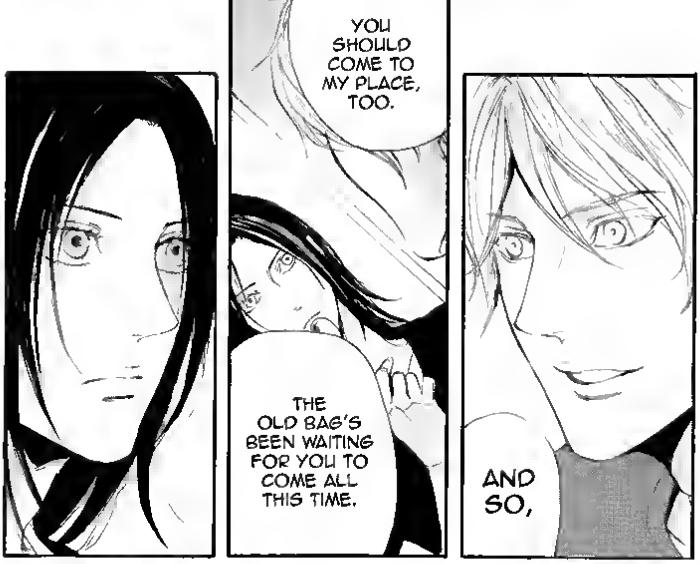
I KNOW, RIGHT?!
BUT YOU'VE IMPROVED LEAPS AND BOUNDS, TAROU-CHAN. YOU COULDN'T EVEN ROLL A RICE BALL BEFORE.
YAY!
GEEZ,
IF YOU'RE GONNA COMPLAIN, THEN DON'T EAT IT.
HMM?
IT'S KINDA SALTY.

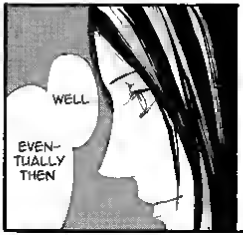
AFTER YUMENO GRADUATED FROM OUR HIGH SCHOOL.

HE WAS ADMITTED TO A MIDDLE TIER UNIVERSITY IN TOKYO (MAYBE BECAUSE HE GAINED THE ABILITY TO THINK AND STUDY).

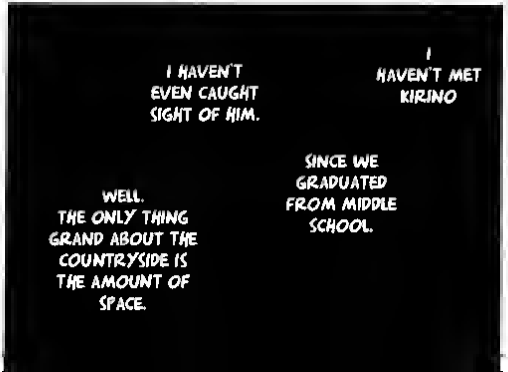
NOW. HE'S DOING SALES AT A TRAVEL AGENCY.

AT THE BEGINNING OF NEXT MONTH, I'M GOIN' BACK TO THE COUNTRYSIDE. CAN YOU TAKE A HOLIDAY?
He's got a kid now.
HMM, I'LL ASK, BUT EVEN IF I CAN'T, YOU SHOULD STILL GO BY YOURSELF.
GEEZ, I WANNA SEE YOUR MOM, TOO, FUTOSHI I WANNA DRINK AND PARTY IT UP AGAIN WITH THE THREE OF US
YOU AND MOM SURE GET ALONG WELL, TAROU-CHAN.


YOU SHOULD COME TO MY PLACE, TOO.
THE OLD BAG'S BEEN WAITING FOR YOU TO COME ALL THIS TIME.
AND SO,

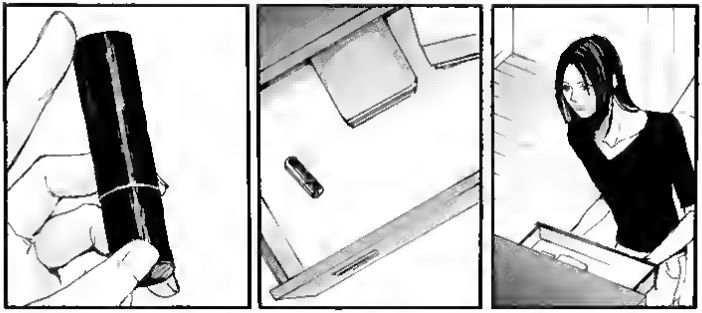

WELL
EVEN-TUALLY THEN

I've had it with your stubborn guy phobia!
IT'S BEEN A FEW YEARS SINCE HE SAID, "I'M SO MOVED!!!" SO I'VE BEEN HOME AND IT'S NORMAL. HE'S THE TYPE OF GUY THAT SHRINKS IN THE FACE OF A SCOLDING FROM THE OLD BAG
I- IT'LL BE FINE.
Divine punish-ment!
BUT IF I GO, YOUR DAD WILL PROBABLY KILL ME


I HAVEN'T EVEN CAUGHT SIGHT OF HIM.
I HAVEN'T MET KIRINO
SINCE WE GRADUATED FROM MIDDLE SCHOOL.
WELL. THE ONLY THING GRAND ABOUT THE COUNTRYSIDE IS THE AMOUNT OF SPACE.

FROM WHAT I'VE HEARD FROM YUMENO.

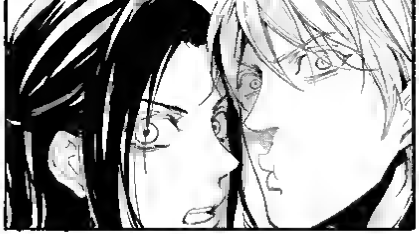
IT SOUNDS LIKE HE'S MARRIED AND HAS A CHILD.



I REMEMBER ABOUT THOSE DAYS. AND ABOUT KIRINO....

EVEN NOW.

DON'T DRINK TOO MUCH, OKAY?
YEAH, GOT IT.
TAROU-CHAN, YOU'LL BE BACK LATE TONIGHT, RIGHT?
YEAH THERE'S A DRINKING PARTY SPONSORED BY THE CHIEF
There we go
THEN YOU WON'T BE NEEDING DINNER TONIGHT.
VRRRR
.....
OH RIGHT, THIS WEEKEND, I...
KISS



W-when we're gonna be late
Gotta hurry
WHISH
Lord

THUNK

NO REASON, REALLY
'CUZ I WANTED TO

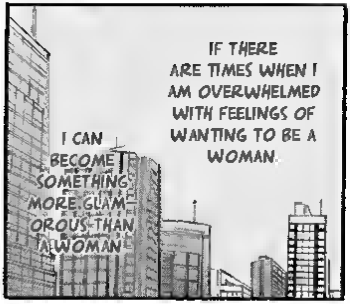
THAT WAS RARE WHY'D YOU DO THAT BACK THERE...?

YUMENO AND I HAVE BEEN TOGETHER SO LONG THAT OUR RELATIONSHIP IS LIKE A MARRIED COUPLE'S THERE'S NOTHING THAT REALLY HEATS US UP ANYMORE.
BUT HIS RELATIONSHIP IS SO PRECIOUS AND DEAR TO ME.

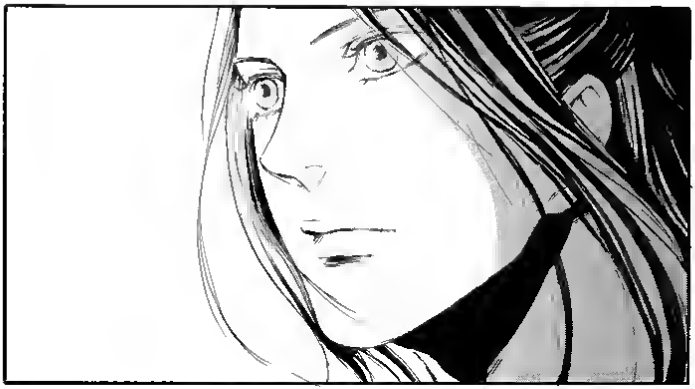
SEE YA!
Work hard!

IT'D BE TOO REALISTIC TO CALL TOKYO A SHANGRI-LA SINCE THE WORRIES AND ANXIETIES NEVER END
IN THE END, SHANGRI-LA FOR ME WAS DIFFERENT FROM WHAT KIRINO ENVISIONED.

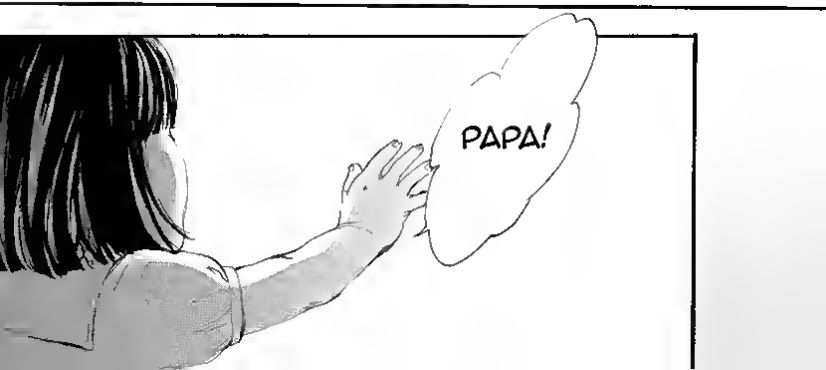
HOWEVER.


I CAN BECOME SOMETHING MORE GLAMOROUS THAN A WOMAN
IF THERE ARE TIMES WHEN I AM OVERWHELMED WITH FEELINGS OF WANTING TO BE A WOMAN.

THIS IS 'ME.'



THIS
IS 'MISHIMA
FUTOSHI.'



NATSUKI!
LET'S GO HOME ALREADY! MAMA MADE HAMBUR-GERS
AND ME AN' GRAMPS HELPED!
SHE WAS GOOD ALL THE WAY, RIGHT, NAC-CHAN?
YEAH!
I SEE! THAT'S GOOD THEN!
GOOD WORK ON YOUR BUSYNESS TWIP!
THANKS. HAVE YOU BEEN A GOOD GIRL? DID YOU BOTHER GRANNY?
YEAH, 'CUZ MAMA'S STOMACH IS SO BIG, SHE LOOKED LIKE SHE COULD USE SOME HELP
OH, GRAMPS DID, TOO? THAT'S UNUSUAL

WAIT, MOTHER... YOU'LL SPRAIN YOUR BACK AGAIN!
YAY!
Uh
up me go.
OKAY, NACCHAN! HOW ABOUT GRANNY PIGGY-BACKS YOU HOME?
I SEE...
GEEZ.
Hayo-ho
Hayo-ho
WHAT'RE YOU TALKING ABOUT? I'VE STILL GOT A LOT LONGER TO GO!
OH, PAPA, LOOK!!!
IT'S A HUGE RED DRAGON-FLY!

HMM?
OH, YOU'RE RIGHT...

YOU KNOW,
IT'S CALLED THE AUTUMN DARTER.
I GUESS SUMMER'S ENDING NOW...

END

SMELLS LIKE GREEN SPIRIT

BY NAGAI SABUROU

CREDITS

TRANSLATOR: CHIISAI-HIME

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Extra

SIGN: FOOT BATH

MY CLASSMATE, NANJOU-KUN, IS A STRANGE KID.
EEEK!
DON'T FORGET WE'RE STILL IN CLASS!
HEY, NANJOU! YOU'RE DAY-DREAMING AGAIN?!
I'M SORRY.

DING-DONG

DING-DONG

NANJOU-KUN WRITES NOVELS. CONTRARY TO HIS LOOKS, HE WRITES GORY HORROR STORIES.

I'M HIS ONLY READER.

YANAGIDA-KUN. ARE YOU COMING OVER TO READ TODAY?

YEAH, I AM.

SO INTER-ESTING.
NANJOU..
HMM?
IT WAS SUPER INTER-ESTING! I WANT TO READ MORE!!!
RE-ALLY?
MM-HMM!
I...

AND SOMETIMES STEAL GLANCES AT HIM.
OVER TO NANJOU-KUN'S HOUSE TO READ HIS NOVEL...
WHERE?
NANJOU-KUN? WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?
THAT MEANS...
...GET IT?
Ba-dump

SO I WAS SURPRISED TO HEAR HE'D BE MOVING TO AMERICA IN SEPTEMBER BECAUSE OF HIS DAD'S TRANSFER.

OHH S-SO IT'S LIKE THAT THAT'S WHAT IT MEANS
HEHE.

BE ABLE TO SHOW YOU MY NOVELS ANYMORE
I WON'T...

THE LAST TIME WILL BE AT CAMP IN SEPTEM-BER

Ohhh~
How pretty
SH~
HHH.
!
ZZZ
I'LL BE LONELY..
YEAH... ME TOO.
YANAGI-DA-KUN, YOU WERE ALWAYS LOOKING AT ME
!

NAN...
WHAT ARE YOU DOING THERE?!

WE ARE... TERRIBLY SORRY.
IT'S ABSOLUTELY SHAMEFUL
Close

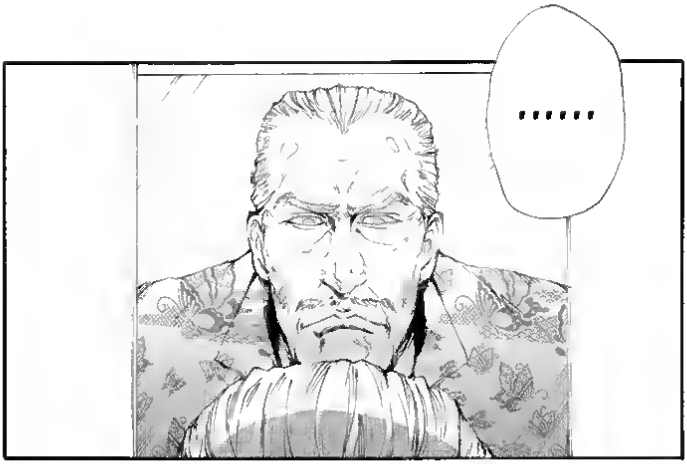
I NEVER SAW NANJOU-KUN AGAIN...

AFTER THAT.

AND I NEVER LEARNT THE CONTINUATION OF HIS NOVEL.

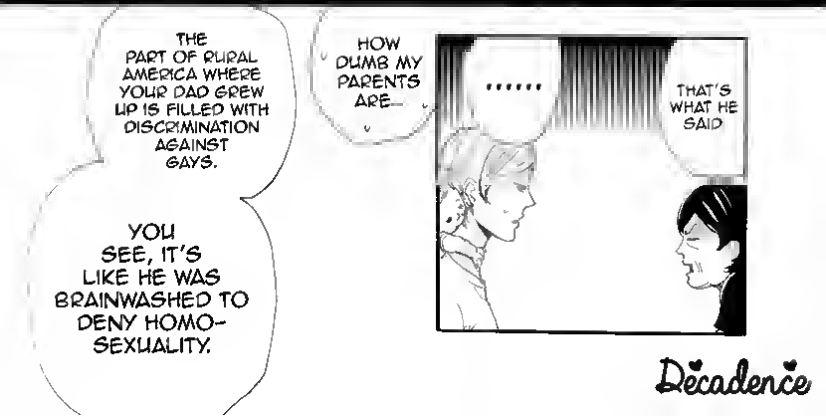
Yanagida! Hurry back! Riku-chan's waiting for youuu!

END



.....
WHY DOES MY OLD MAN KEEP LOOKING IN THE MIRROR?
HE'S EVEN WEARING HIS ONLY NICE HAWAIIAN SHIRT
OH GEEZ, YOU!
TODAY'S THE DAY TAROU-CHAN'S BRINGING OVER FUTOSHI, SO HE'S ALL EXCITED
BUT MY OLD MAN HE WAS
RIGHT, ISN'T IT WEIRD?
BUT YOU KNOW, WHEN WE GOT INTO A FIGHT ABOUT TAROU-CHAN
THAT'S ENOUGH, DADDY! STOP IT ALREADY !!!
SHUT UP!

WHY WON'T YOU ALLOW IT?
IF YOU HATE THEM, THEN EXPLAIN IT LOUD AND CLEAR! C'MON!
I HATE GAYS!
I DEFINITELY WON'T ALLOW IT! I'LL NEVER ACCEPT IT!!!
GRR, YOU SHITTY OLD MAN!!!
WHY WAS IT AGAIN...?
WHY...?
.....


THE PART OF RURAL AMERICA WHERE YOUR DAD GREW UP IS FILLED WITH DISCRIMINATION AGAINST GAYS.
YOU SEE, IT'S LIKE HE WAS BRAINWASHED TO DENY HOMO-SEXUALITY.
HOW DUMB MY PARENTS ARE...
.....
THAT'S WHAT HE SAID

YOUR DAD WAS ALSO LIKE THIS WHEN YOU BROUGHT YOUR WIFE, RIE, HOME.
THE TRUTH IS WELL, YOU CAN TELL SINCE HE'S WEARING HIS BEST SHIRT
HAHA...
IS THAT SO.
BUT HE WON'T BE A HOMOPHOBE FOREVER. DO YOU KNOW WHY?
BECAUSE HE'S DUMB?
YES, BECAUSE HE'S DUMB.
PFTTT
ALL RIGHT, DADDY STOP LOOKING IN THE MIRROR. YOU LOOK FINE
IT'S NOT WHAT YOU THINK! I'M JUST GETTING PREPARED TO GIVE JUDGEMENT TO GAYS...
OH, MY JAPANESE KATANA...! WHERE'S MY SWORD?!
I THREW THAT THING IN THE WAREHOUSE LONG AGO!
...!!!
I GUESS THERE'S NOTHIN I CAN DO ABOUT IT THEN !
END

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